

COMMENT OF THE DAY

The Lost Hour

EARLY next Sunday morning we must put our clocks back one hour and revert to Standard Time for nearly five months and so deprive ourselves of an extra hour of daylight when we need it most after our day's work is ended. We are obliged to do so by the process of an Order in Council authorised by the Summer Time Ordinance. Of course we will obey and conform to the law but one wonders if the instruction is necessary as it is certainly not desirable. The decree authorising Summer Time in Hongkong was introduced just before the last war and was possibly based on the findings of the United Kingdom's Select Committee of 1914. According to the evidence of the day, the new scheme would be beneficial to the health of the community and result in a reduction of domestic and commercial expenditure on artificial light. Many people in Britain were passionately opposed to this daylight saving scheme. One lady, in leaving £600 for the repair of a parish church, went so far as to stipulate in her will that the legacy would be forfeit if services were not conducted "at the true time of the sun." There was also strong opposition in Hongkong when the scheme was first broached and on many later occasions, but to no avail. Summer Time—like the poor—is still with us. A strong point in Hongkong against Summer Time is that the Colony, by its geographical position, saves not one hour of daylight but one hour and twenty-three minutes. However, the same arguments apply now as they did in 1914 (and 1939) so surely if we require the benefit of the extra daylight in summer, we need it more now that the winter months are approaching. By reverting to Standard Time all classes, whether they have a knock-up at the various cricket clubs or kick a ball around at the Southern Playground, will be the losers so why not the Summer Time argument for the winter span?

A New Serial Tomorrow

A new serial starts in the China Mail tomorrow. It is an unusual adventure story about a young British family who spent 250 days travelling the wilds of Africa in a van converted into a home.

The area inside the van was not much bigger than a decent-sized hen's house but SPENCER CHAPMAN, the author, relished adventure and small inconveniences did not trouble him. He wrote the bestseller "The Jungle is Neutral". Now he gives you "AND THE FAMILY CAME TOO".

"Sour words about sweet subjects" is another feature to watch out for in this Saturday's Mail. Hugh Dundas will tell you how British candles have captured the American market.

"Would some power the Good God give us to see ourselves as others see us..." said Burns. Tomorrow's Mail won't quite give you that power but Shirley Loe will tell you how you can learn to look at yourself as an audience looks at an actress. William Barclay, veteran Parliamentary reporter, asks DID LLOYD GEORGE INFLUENCE CHURCHILL? While Leonard

The World's strangest stories continue this week with Bill McGowan writing on the butcher's boy who reached squeamish by way of the prize ring. "Honour At Stake" ends this week with Edgar Lustgarten telling you of the man who was saved from ruin by a mis-spelt word in a letter.

Mosley says English film directors are afraid of women stars. "These are just some of the top-line features you will find in tomorrow's Mail. Cross-words, book and film reviews, Glean, an enlarged week-end Women's section, local and overseas pictures and the latest news of the day—in all, 20 pages of the world's best reading.

UNIONS DECIDE:

Employers' Peace Offer Rejected BUT END IN SIGHT

London, Oct. 28. Leaders of the 43,000 striking dock workers tonight decided to continue Britain's paralysing dock strike until concessions made today by London employers are extended throughout the country.

This was their verdict after a seven-hour study of a "peace offer" by the London Port Employers at talks organised during the day by the Ministry of Labour.

The decision of the strike leaders means that the stoppage now tying up 346 vessels in eight ports will continue—although the end appears to be in sight.

The "peace offer" was made by the London Port Employers to leaders of the chief union involved, the National Amalgamated Stevedores and Dockers. The "back to work" formula agreed by the London employers at these talks was that normal working, including "reasonable overtime," would be resumed next Monday.

It would be accompanied by negotiation on practical arrangements for overtime—one of the key issues of the strike. Meanwhile, employers would not report men who refused to work overtime "in order that the discussions could proceed in a spirit of goodwill."

ASSURANCES SOUGHT
This formula was considered by the leaders of the Stevedores Union and of other unions involved at a meeting which ended late tonight.

The meeting was adjourned at one stage to allow Mr Dick Barrett, Secretary of the Stevedores Union, to seek assurances from the Port Employers that there would be no "victimisation" after a return to work and that the formula would be applied on a national basis.

He sought these assurances through a Ministry of Labour Conciliation Officer who later told him that the assurances "were not forthcoming" from the employers.

A statement from the Labour Ministry, issued after the meeting, said provincial employers had informed Mr Barrett that they could not consider extending the London formula to other ports because the overtime dispute did not arise in provincial ports.

Informants predicted that the provincial employers might change their attitude tomorrow.

TOUGH COCKNEY
Mr Barrett, a small, tough Cockney, then returned to his fellow strike leaders who voted

to continue the strike until their requests were met.

Later Mr Barrett told reporters: "If a formula could be adopted by the National Employers, we feel sure it would bring peace to the industry and satisfaction to the men in all the ports."

Late tonight, industrial circles remained optimistic that the strike—the worst in a generation—will be settled within the next day or so.

CABINET MEETING

Tonight's key conference of strike leaders was attended by delegates from Britain's eight strike-bound ports in which exports and imports worth at least £170 million are at a standstill. It was being followed by a special meeting of Sir Winston Churchill's Cabinet to review latest reports on the situation.

The Cabinet has had plans ready for more than a fortnight to use servicemen to move essential cargoes in the docks and to protect public services.

It has persistently postponed this action in the hope of a settlement and because of fears of possible "sympathy" strikes.

There was no change today in a second dock strike involving 8,000 ship repair workers who have tied up 100 ships for more than a month in a separate dispute.—Reuter & United Press.

Ike, Adenauer Say No To Molotov Plan

Washington, Oct. 28. President Eisenhower and Dr Konrad Adenauer, the West German Chancellor, today cold-shouldered Russia's call for new four-power talks on Germany.

In a joint communique after a White House conference, they dismissed last week's Soviet note proposing a new get-together on the German question as containing nothing new.

It was America's first formal comment on the note handed to the British, American and French Ambassadors in Moscow by Mr V. M. Molotov, Soviet Foreign Minister, as nine nations meeting in Paris signed pacts to grant sovereignty and the right to return to Germany.

Observers here interpreted today's reference to mean that the United States stand by the position taken by itself, Britain and France to earlier representations by Mr Molotov of three proposals.

"This is that the Western Big Three will not agree to another conference with the Soviet Union on Germany until Russia agrees to allow genuinely free, internationally-supervised elections for all Germany and signature of an 'Atlantic' state treaty," China Mail Special.

(See Back Page)

New Flag Officer

London, Oct. 28. The appointment of Rear Admiral R. E. Ekins as Flag Officer, Commanding the Fifth Cruiser Squadron and Flag Officer, second-in-command, Far East Station was announced here today.

Rear Admiral Ekins, 51, is a senior specialist. He succeeds Rear Admiral G. V. Clouston.

DOCK STRIKE TO CONTINUE



These three pictures taken by our Staff Photographer yesterday show (above) water trickling into Taitan reservoir while the top picture on the right shows how the water level is sinking in the reservoir. A thin white line which can be seen in the picture marks the peak level last month. The picture below shows how the water level is sinking at the Kowloon reservoir. A black border just above the water line shows how much water has been used in the last month.

Nationalists Will Last On Formosa—Grantham

San Francisco, Oct. 28. The Governor of Hongkong, Sir Alexander Grantham, said today "short of World War III" the Nationalists will "last on Formosa."

He had been asked at a press conference, marking the beginning of his visit to San Francisco, how he felt about the stability of Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalist regime.

For that reason, he said, the West should work for closer contact with Communist China in order to prove to it "we are not aggressors."

"Red China's leaders are appallingly ignorant of U.S. intentions; they really think this country is an aggressor," he said.

NO INDICATIONS
Though Sir Alexander said there were "no firm indications of a Russian-Red Chinese split," he believed in its inevitability.

"It is inconceivable in the long run that an ancient civilisation can be dominated by the barbarian theories of Marx, Lenin and Engels. It's an insult to their culture," he said.

Members of the Chinese Press asked Sir Alexander about the amount of encouragement Chinese residents of Hongkong were given to participate in the Colony's rule.

He said they had been reluctant to vote and enter into public services.

LOW PAY THE REASON?
"I have publicly deplored the fact that not more Chinese are coming forward," he said. He suggested that the low pay of government jobs might be the reason.

"Hongkong has a pretty good reputation," Sir Alexander said, "as a definitely defensible against any Communist attack."

He admitted a surprise attack would engulf the Colony, but he added that its defences would be made very strong if an invasion appeared imminent.

"And you always have a warning," he added.

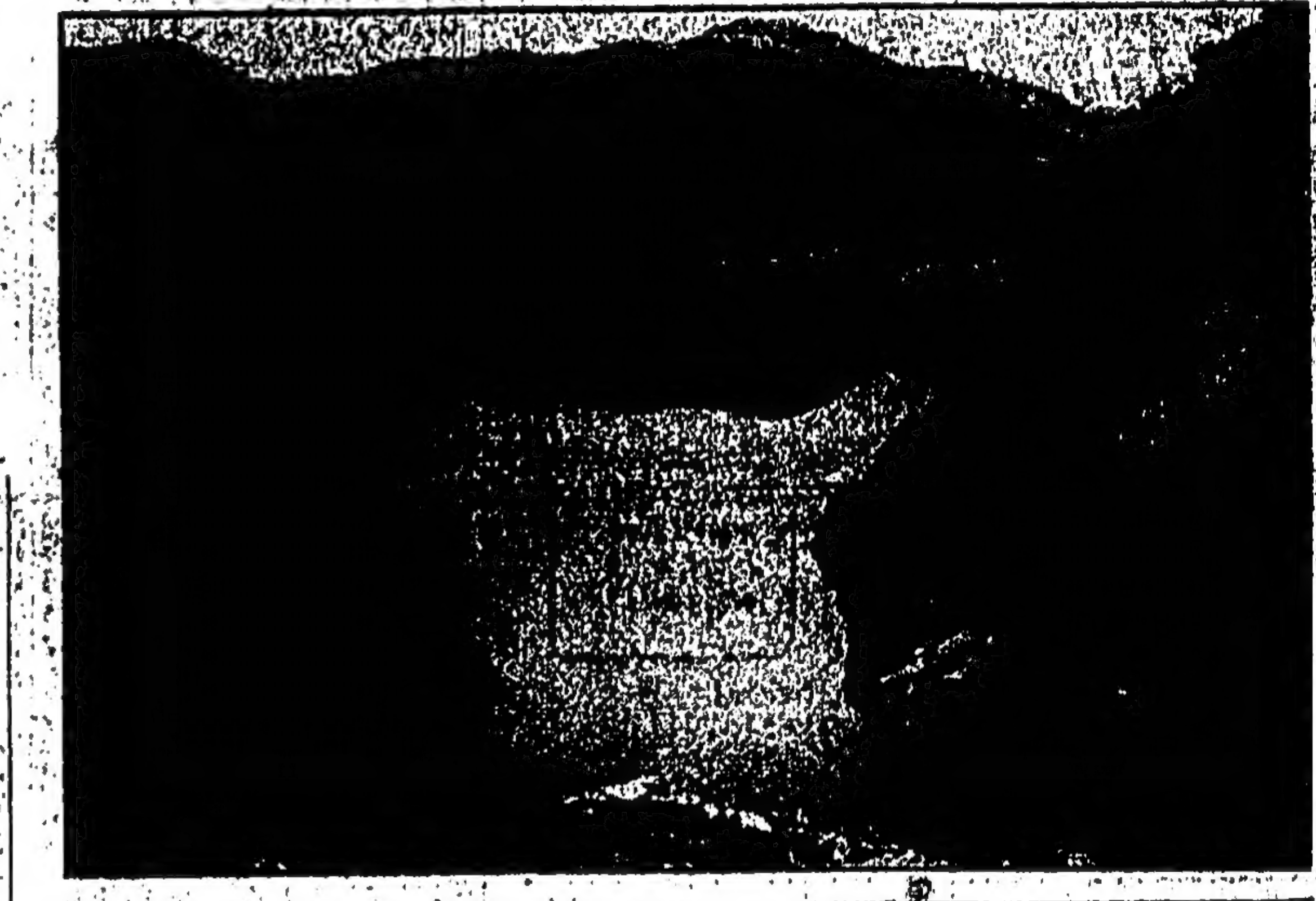
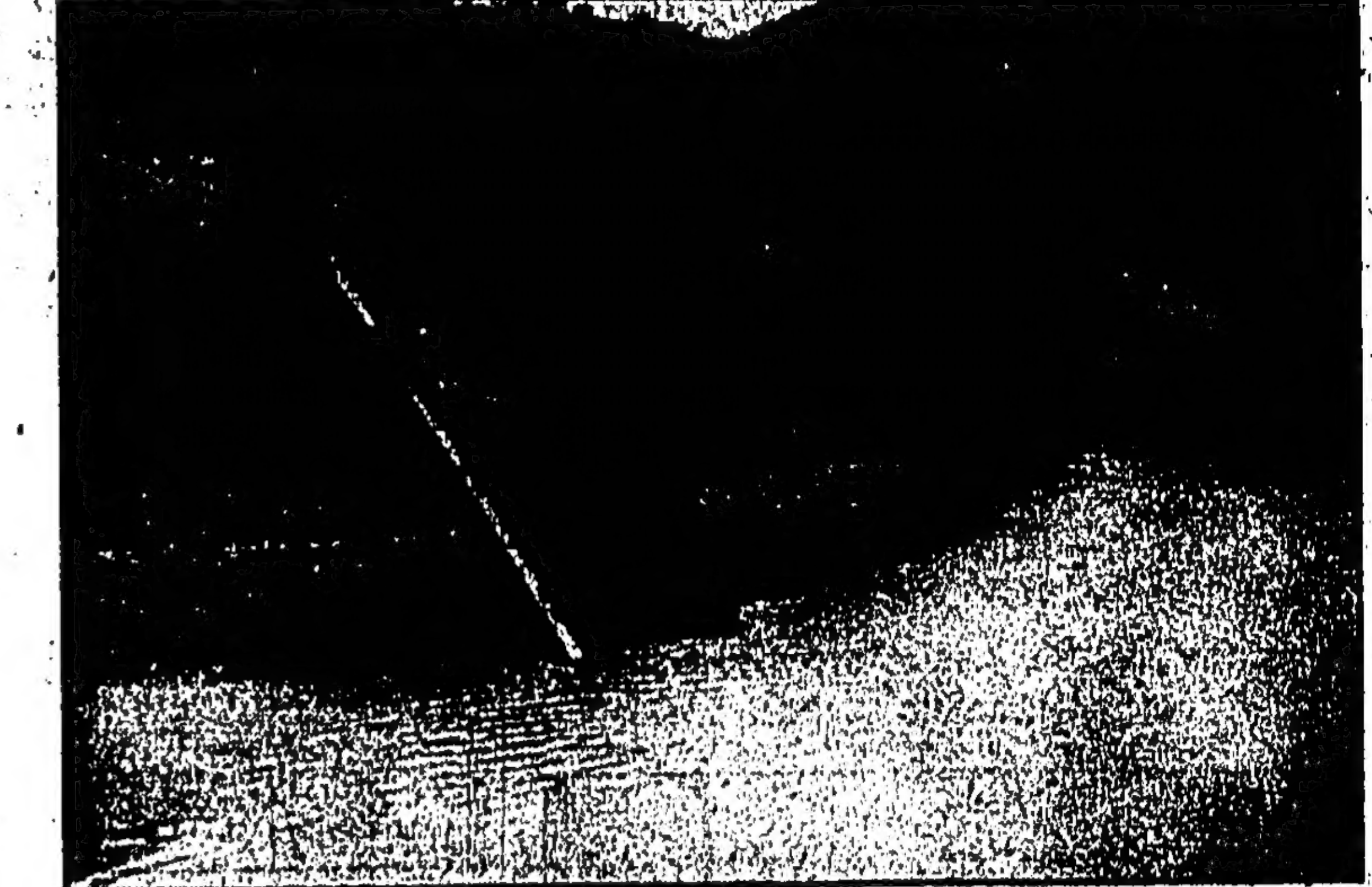
EASY PREY

He said Americans and others think Hongkong would be easy prey for the Communists because the Colony fell in 18 days to the Japanese in World War II.

"But we have command of the sea and air around Hongkong now," he continued, "and this was not the case in 1941."

Replying to a reporter's question about the effect on Hongkong of the U.S. Seventh Fleet in the South China Sea, Sir Alexander said it possibly was an "indirect deterrent" to Chinese aggression.

Sir Alexander said the U.S. speaking tour meant for General Douglas MacArthur and Admiral Chester Nimitz, who were in the Pacific, was a "very important" strategic statement of confidence.



Government's Approach To Tram Union

The Commissioner of Labour, the Hon. B.C.K. Hawkins, said this morning he had communicated to the Tramway Workers' Union the text of the letter which he received yesterday from the Chairman of the Hongkong Tramways Limited.

This letter stated the Company would welcome the appointment by Government of an impartial Tribunal to enquire into and report to Government on the circumstances leading to the present agitation on the part of the Hongkong Tramway Workers' Union, including the circumstances under which recognition of the Union was withdrawn in 1950 and the welfare and treatment of employees.

In a covering letter addressed to the Chairman of the Tramway Workers' Union, the Commissioner of Labour inquired whether the Union "would also welcome the appointment of a commission to conduct an inquiry into the circumstances under which the terms set out in the (Company) Chairman's letter."

The Commissioner has informed Government of this latest development in the four-month-old dispute but pointed out that no further action can be taken for the moment—until he has received the Union's reply.

To Be Dissolved
Cato, Oct. 28. The Cato Brotherhood is to be dissolved. The Cato Brotherhood was a secret society which was active in the Cato area of Hongkong.

Cyprus To Stay British

London, Oct. 28. Britain will not relinquish her sovereignty over Cyprus at present, the Colonial Secretary, Mr Alan Lennox-Boyd, said in a stormy session of the House of Commons today.

He added that Britain would recover with the new constitution for the island, rejected by the Cypriot "enosis" (union with Greece) Movement.

"In the present troubled state of the world, we can not foresee a time when a relinquishment of our sovereignty over Cyprus would be compatible with our responsibilities for security in the Middle East,"—France-Press.

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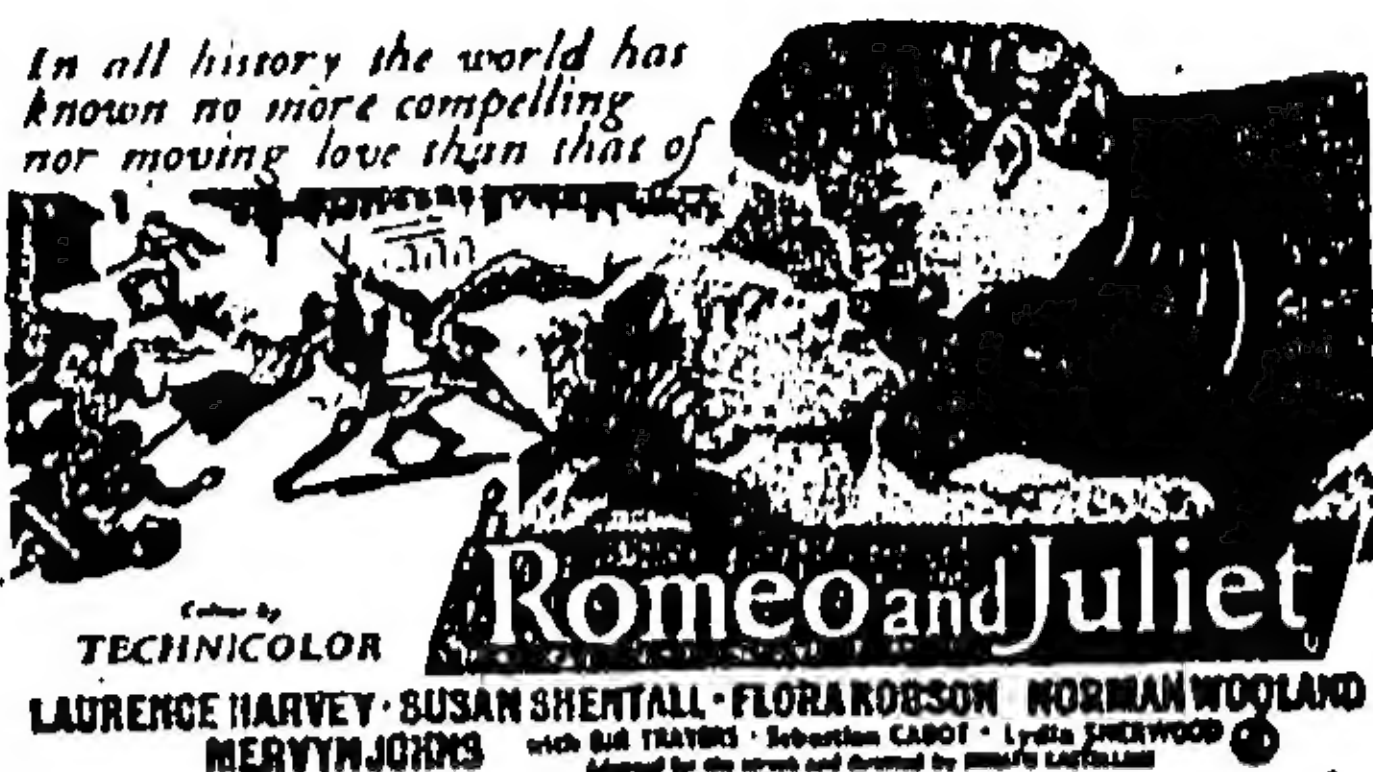
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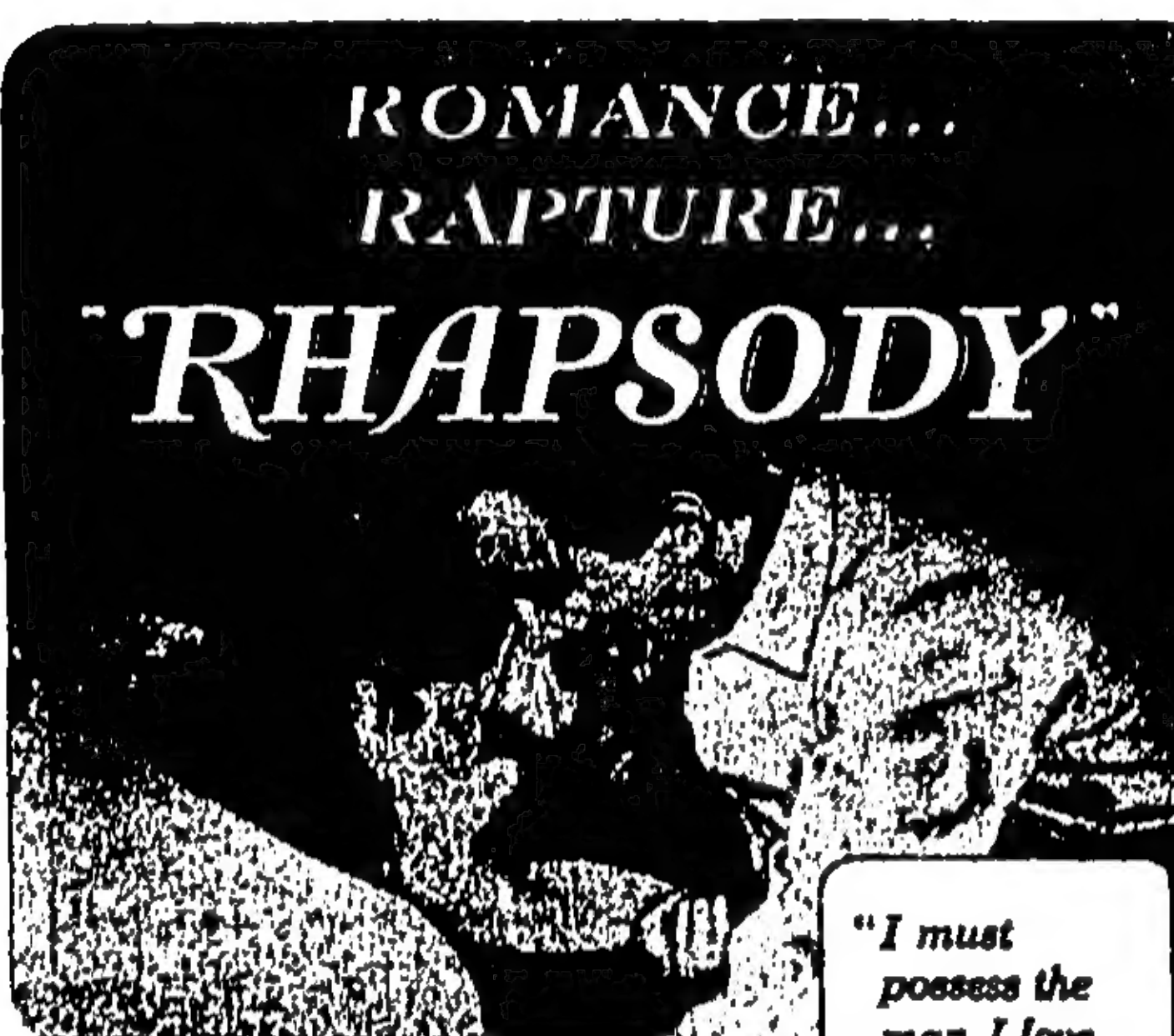


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EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI DISPUTE

No Settlement Without Full Arab Unanimity

TELL-AVIV NEWSPAPER REPORTS DISCOUNTED

Washington, Oct. 28. Egyptian officials said today that their Government has "absolutely no intention" of reaching any settlement with Israel "except in full unanimity with the other Arab states."

This was their reaction to reports appearing in Tel-Aviv papers that Egypt was showing indications of willingness to reach a settlement with Israel by exchanging the Gaza strip for a corridor across Israel linking Egypt and Jordan.

The officials denied that Egyptian officials had made even "informal" suggestions to the United States authorities concerning a possibility of a separate deal with Israel.

These Egyptian sources said that their country's position was firmly based on the principle that a settlement with Israel can be achieved only after the Israeli Government (1) abides by United Nations resolutions concerning repatriation of refugees

and compensation; (2) internationalisation of Jerusalem; and (3) partition of Palestine.

PROPAGANDA

They contended that any reports of Egyptian willingness to settle with Israel without the concurrence of other Arab States were "propaganda" put out by Israeli sources aiming at splitting the Arab bloc.

American officials commenting on the reported indication of Egyptian willingness to consider a separate Israeli settlement, said that the articles appeared to be "pure speculation."

They said they knew of no approaches to the American authorities by Egyptian officials on the subject.

The United States authorities added that it was true that they had detected increasing signs of some willingness on the parts of both Israel and Egypt to consider a possible solution of the Arab-Israeli dispute, but that neither side had made anything remotely resembling an official proposal.

They expressed hope, however, that the possibility of "co-operation" by both countries might improve within the "foreseeable future" which they did not define.

The question of whether or not the Administration of President Eisenhower has favoured the Arabs over the Israelis in the matter of economic and military aid has been injected into the domestic political campaign in the United States.

The feeling resulting from this has made it unlikely that the State Department will be able to consider any positive approach to Middle East problems until the election fever has subsided.

AID CHARGES

Some Zionists and some Democratic Congressional candidates have charged that the United States is favouring the Arabs over Israel in the matter of economic and military aid and that this will eventually result in Arab "aggression" against Israel.

The subject is of political importance in the United States because of the large numbers of Jewish voters concentrated in some sections.

Egyptian and other Arab sources report that it is unrealistic to expect the United States to give the same amount of aid to Israel, with its 2,000,000 population, as it gives to the Arab States with a total population of about 45,000,000. They also flatly deny that they have any intentions of "aggression" against Israel.

The position of the Administration is that it is maintaining a balanced policy of aid in the Middle East which will not imperil the peace of the area. State Department officials have said that Israel is in an "adequate" defensive position and thus needs no military aid at this time.

Israeli officials counter with the statement that they are surrounded by hostile neighbours and need military aid as well as a formal United States security pact guaranteeing their sovereignty.—United Press.

U.S. & Russia Relations Could Break Any Time

Helsinki, Oct. 28.

Mrs Margaret Chase Smith, Republican Senator of the United States, said today on her arrival from Moscow that she "would not be surprised" if diplomatic relations between the United States and Russia were broken off "at any time by either side."

The Senator declined to say whether her reasoning was linked with the grave incident involving Soviet treatment of two American Embassy wives which occurred during her stay in Moscow.

She refused to discuss the case of the wives in any manner.

UNCERTAINTY
Her reply on the uncertainty of diplomatic relations came in answer to a reporter's question at a Press conference. He asked whether American-Russian relations were in a better condition than before or nearer to a point where they would be broken.

"I would not be surprised if the relations between the United States and the Soviet Union were broken off at any time by either side," she answered.

This flat statement came unexpectedly after she had given reporters her impressions of her visit and the reporter who asked the question added: "It is a rather strong statement."

"I know that," replied Senator Smith.—United Press.

Destroyer Order Cancelled

Rome, Oct. 28.

An American "off-shore" order for a destroyer was cancelled by the United States authorities here today, because they objected to the political views of the workers who were to build the ship.

The destroyer was to have been constructed in the "Pignolo" dockyards in Palermo and then turned over to the Italian Navy without cost through the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation.

It was reported here that another shipyard would be given the order.—France Press.

Shah's Brother Missing

Tehran, Oct. 28.

The Shah of Persia tonight cancelled celebrations in honour of his birthday, due to have been held tonight and tomorrow, as plans closed a day's unsuccessful search for his missing brother.

Prince Ali Reza, eldest brother of the Shah and heir to the throne, is missing aboard a private four-engine plane. It was due here at 8.30 p.m. last night.

The Shah's son, Crown Prince Reza, is believed to have been on the plane.—United Press.



Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia (left) leaving the Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford, after the degree of Doctor of Civil Law had been conferred upon him by Oxford University at a Convocation during his visit to England. He is accompanied by the Chancellor of the University, Lord Halifax.—Reuterphoto.

Dr Khan Sahib Joins Pakistan's Caretaker Cabinet

Karachi, Oct. 28.

Dr Khan Sahib, influential former Chief Minister of the Northwest Frontier province, was sworn in today as a member of Mr Mohammed Ali's caretaker Cabinet.

The Cabinet which held its first meeting today, has been formed as a temporary Government, pending elections for a new Assembly.

The Constituent Assembly was dissolved on Sunday on the ground that it had lost the confidence of the people.

Dr Khan Sahib, is a brother of Khan Abdul Ghafoor Khan, "the Frontier Gandhi." Dr Khan Sahib headed the Congress Ministry in the Northwest Frontier province until the partition of India and Pakistan.

GOVERNOR-GENERAL

The Governor-General, Mr Ghulam Mohammed, on whose orders the Constituent Assembly was dissolved and the new constitution scrapped, presided at today's Cabinet meeting.

The new appointment climaxed 24 hours of secret talks at the Governor-General's house, aimed at making the Cabinet as broad based as possible.

Dr Khan Sahib is the first non-Muslim League party man to be appointed a Minister of the Central Government in the country's seven years' history. His appointment, it was authoritatively stated, would bring the growing Opposition parties of the Northwest Frontier province and the Punjab red shirts solidly behind the Government.

Dr Khan Sahib's Portfolio will be announced tomorrow. Meanwhile negotiations are continuing in Karachi with representatives of the Opposition Awami (People's) League and Muslim League leaders from the Punjab for filling the remaining Cabinet posts.

EMBASSY TO ZURICH

An embassy has also been sent to Zurich to bring to Karachi "as quickly as possible" Mr Hussain Shaheed Suhrawardy, leader of the United Front Party which controls the East Bengal Provincial Assembly.

Political observers have forecast that Mr Suhrawardy will soon replace Mr Mohammed Ali as Prime Minister.

The embassy to Switzerland is Mr Ataur Rahman, Vice-President of the East Bengal Awami League.

Mr M. H. Usmani, President of the Karachi Awami League, said he had conferred with the Governor-General yesterday and subsequently called Mr Suhrawardy "to come back soon and give a lead to the people."

Awami League leaders here hope that a new Assembly will be made possible soon by French nominations made by the existing provincial legislatures.

Should such nominations be made on the same proportional representation basis as the previous Constituent Assembly, the United Front—which routed the Muslim League in East Bengal elections seven months ago—will be the majority party in the new Federal legislature.—Reuter.

Mme Ollier Denies Allegations

Paris, Oct. 28. Mme Rose Marie Ollier, former French diplomat and suspected Soviet spy, said today she had "friendly relations" with Russian diplomats in Australia but vigorously denied that she had passed them any secrets.

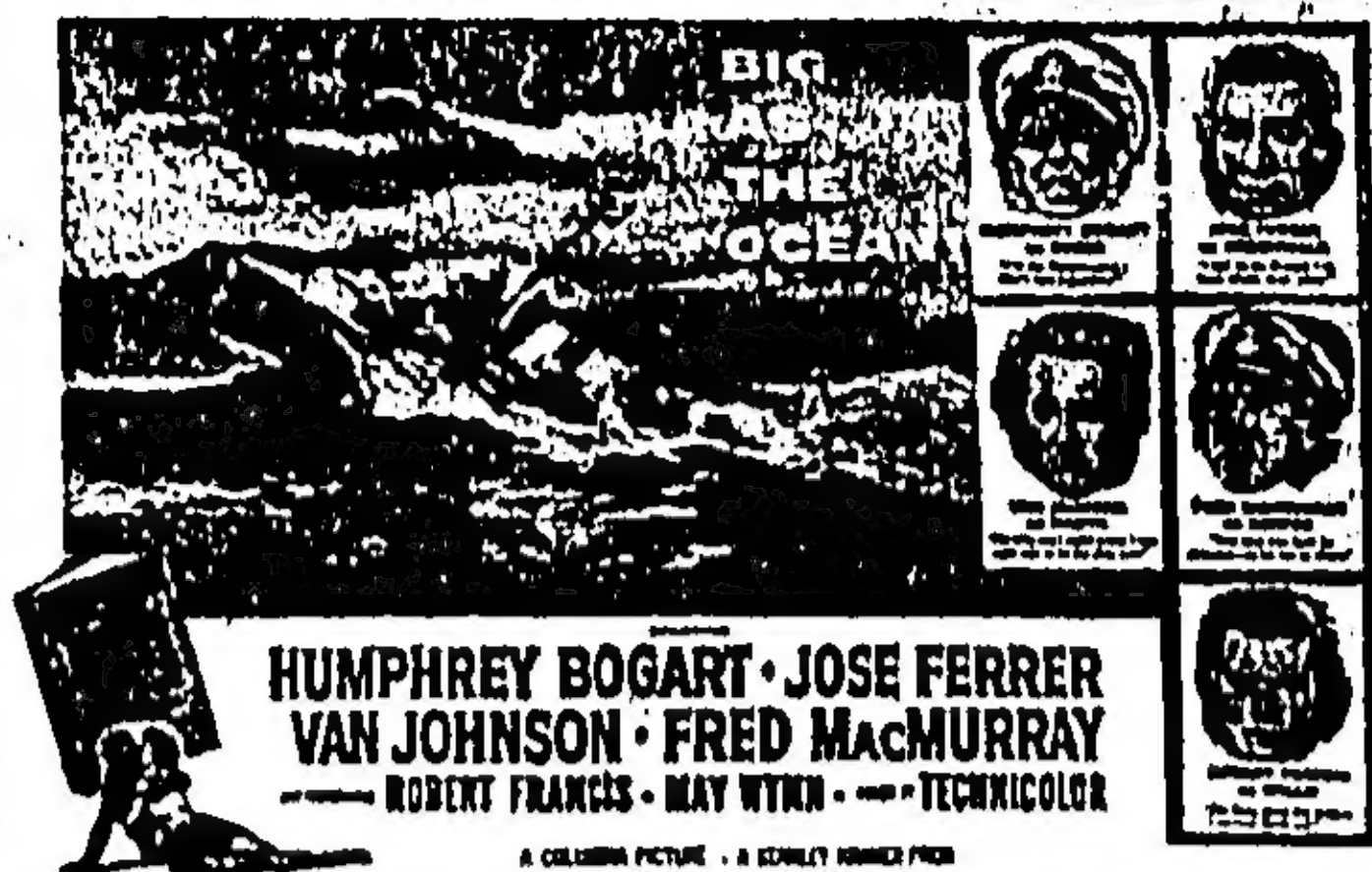
Mme Ollier told the military examining magistrate that she knew Vladimir Petrov, former Soviet secret police chief in Canberra, Mrs Petrov, a Tass agency journalist named Besov and an "Atsop" Dmitry Sadevskov. She admitted she met them frequently and chatted with them but said she had in no way betrayed France. She said she gave them no secret information whatsoever.

During her testimony Mme Ollier said Petrov told her: he was getting many complaints from Moscow for not sending enough information on Australia.—United Press.

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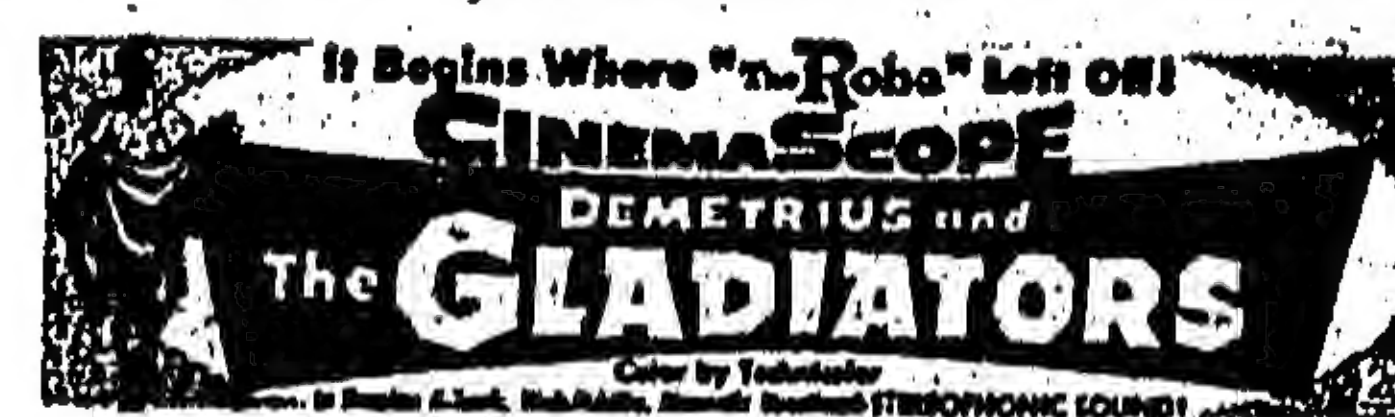


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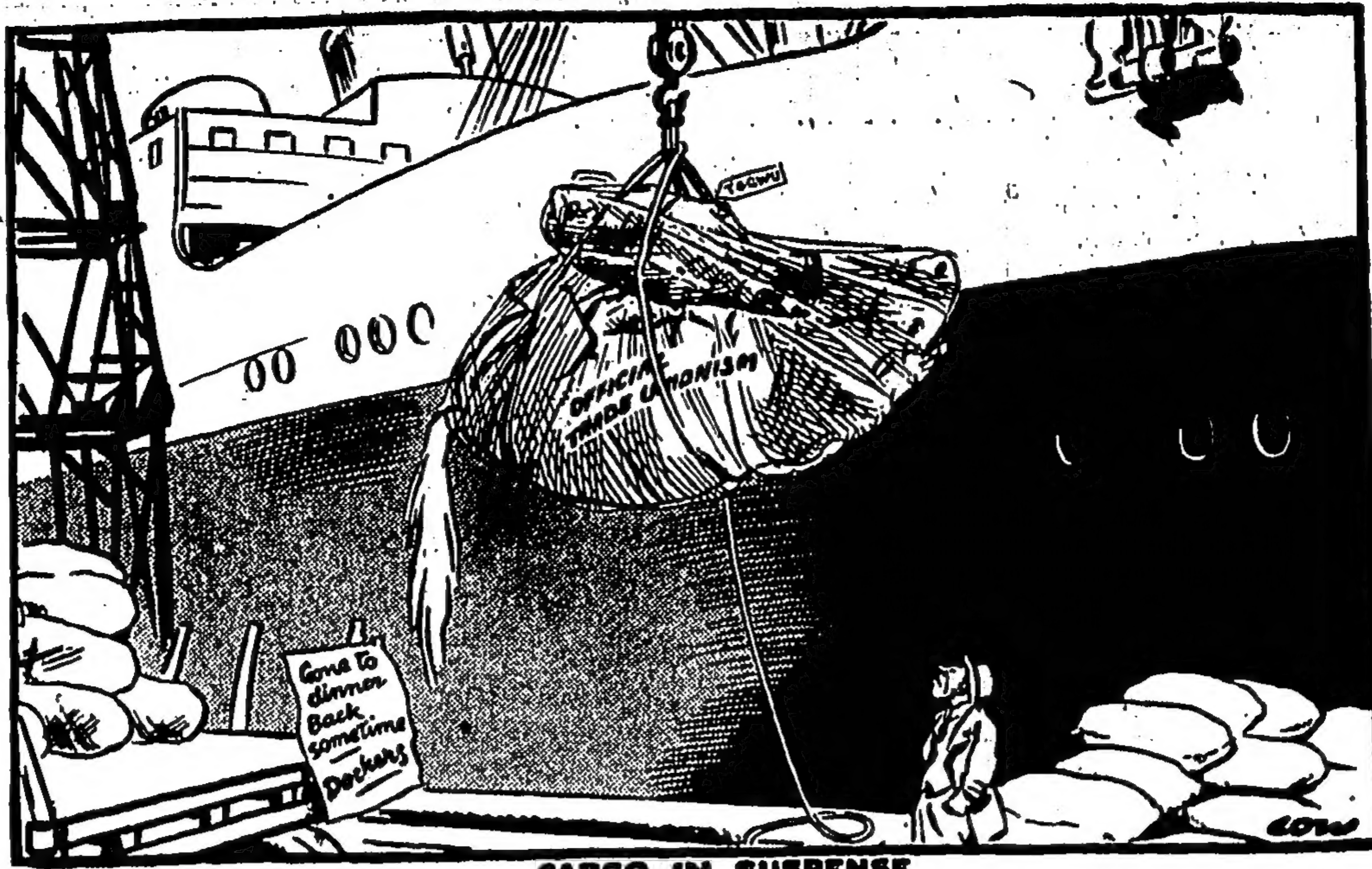
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Russia Through Japanese Eyes

MALENKOV REGIME MORE POPULAR

By DR

SHIGEYOSHI MATSUMAE,

member of a Japanese Parliamentary mission which recently visited Russia and China.

THE leaders of Russia have always claimed that Communism is the one and only way of life for the peoples of the world. The main aim of the Malenkov regime's policy is to prove that contention by equalling or, if possible, surpassing the standard of living of the Western Democracies.

Until this attempt fails there is, in my view, little risk of direct aggression by Russia. So long as their plans for economic improvement go forward, the country's rulers will continue to believe that the world can ultimately be won to their ideological beliefs by force of example rather than by force of arms.

The "cold war" Moscow-sponsored, anti-colonialist rebellions and carefully guided industrial agitation throughout the Western world, are, of course, complementary to this policy in as much as they hinder or retard economic development in the countries of the rival bloc.

I have recently had the opportunity of looking at developments in the countries of Western Europe, in the U.S.S.R. and Red China with an engineer's eyes and have tried to arrive at some definite conclusions as to the strength and potential of the East as compared with the West.

Russia is little more than 50 percent of that of the United States and that technical skill in the latter country is considerably greater.

In the factories which I visited, I noted that while 60 percent of the machinery and 65 percent of the machine tools were of Soviet manufacture, and 25 percent from Czechoslovakia, the remaining 10-15 percent of vital precision tools and testing apparatus, without which the factory could not operate, were stamped with the name-plates of German or American firms.

Coincidence

RUSSIAN engineers with whom I spoke assured me that this was purely a coincidence and that Soviet factories were perfectly capable of turning out such delicate apparatus. But their embarrassment detracted from the value of these assertions.

"This fell on April 12 and it would take approximately

The truth is that scientists and technicians have been in the past, and indeed still are, hampered by the limitations put upon them by the politicians and job to experiment with new methods for fear of the consequences of failure.

We were not permitted to see the Moscow University Research Institute, but I had a few words with Professor Sokolov, the chief physicist, who admitted that they were studying the basic principles of atomic power. I said to him: "You realise that if a third world war is waged with atomic power it will mean the extermination of mankind? What is your opinion of this, as a scientist?"

He looked about to say something, but finally mumbled that it was a very delicate question upon which he could not state an opinion just then.

Hydrogen Bomb

MY request to visit the Moscow Academy of Sciences was, however, granted and I was surprised by the great size and efficiency of this institute. In the middle of a discussion with a geologist, a metallurgist and a physicist who was engaged in the study of cosmic rays I suddenly said bluntly:

"The radioactive ashes which fell on Japan this year were of two kinds. One was white in colour, contained calcium of lime as its main constituent and had a very high Geiger count of up to 20,000; the other, which fell on the western Japanese province of Niigata, was blackish in colour, had a Geiger count of only 140 and contained entirely different elements."

"This fell on April 12 and it would take approximately

three days for the air currents to bring it from Siberia to Japan. Now did you explode a hydrogen bomb on April 9?"

The three scholars looked at each other in utter confusion. After a long silence, one of them said hesitantly: "The Soviet people do not conduct such cruel experiments which might endanger the lives of innocent people." It was an entirely unconvincing performance.

Many Chinese

I DO not think that Malenkov's campaign to improve the standard of living means any curtailment of the Soviet Armed Forces. The military are in evidence everywhere, and I and my colleagues were particularly struck by the number of Chinese Army officers and cadets whom we saw in Moscow.

The presence of these Chinese soldiers in Moscow was still in my mind as we arrived in Red China, flying for a whole hour — at least 250 miles — across the flooded area around Hankow, where the much-vaunted flood protection works (begun too late in the season to be effective) have all been swept away.

Last year when I visited this country, the people were still rejoicing at the end of foreign domination and boasting their new-found autonomy. Patriotic slogans plastered every village and public building.

This year there was a difference. Everywhere were slogans glorifying Russia. I feel that it would be rash in the extreme to bank on any upsurge of Titoism in Red China in the foreseeable future.

ROYALTY'S WORTH TO FILM MEN

By MILTON SHULMAN

EVERYONE has seen the pictures. The Queen smiling benevolently at some film actresses trying to balance gracefully in an unaccustomed curtsy. At this time of the year such photographs are the outward sign of the Royal Family's official interest in the world of entertainment. In the first fortnight of November the Queen will attend both the Royal Film Performance and the Royal Variety Show.

Unfortunately, since its inception after the war, hardly a year has gone by without the Royal Film Performance finding itself welling in the centre of some loud and undignified controversy.

Usually the criticism has been directed at the choice of the film the Queen has to see. And, looking back over past selections, the Queen deserves every sympathy for the burden she has had to bear.

Squabbling

WITH the exception of "Scott of the Antarctic," royal films have achieved a remarkable standard of worthy mediocrity. Sometimes—as in the case of Mario Lanza in "Because You're Mine"—the choice could only be justified by a psychiatrist.

On November 15 the Queen will be shown "Beau Brummell"—this year's selection—and it seems hardly likely to do much to brighten a dismal record.

Now the competition among film producers for the chance of presenting the royal film somewhat resembles the squabbling of hungry lions over the fattest Christian.

Undoubtedly they are all after the decided honour such an accolade gives their film. It would be nice to think that was the sole cause of the keen rivalry.

But there is, alas, another consideration that cannot be left out of account. It has been estimated that a film can put an extra £50,000 into the pockets of its producers.

Still peddled

THIS means, of course, that hundreds of thousands of people go to see a film merely because the Queen has seen it. Their decision has nothing to do with the Queen's choice or the Queen's taste.

Although the Queen rarely comments in public about the films she has seen, she knows what torments of ennui she may have suffered before the merciful fade-out.

Yet bored or baffled as she may have been by some of them, these films are still peddled about bearing the royal wreath of royalty when they merit only the commercial crest of Wardour Street.

Since the Queen has nothing to do with the choice of films that are going to be exploited in her name, the onus of choosing the best available films—no matter where they come from—is particularly heavy on the selectors. So far they have singularly failed to carry out this obligation.

Now it is not only the film industry that the patronage of the Royal Family has considerable monetary value. The theatre too is very conscious of the worth of a visit from the Queen or Princess Margaret or the Duchess of Kent.

Whenever a theatre manager learns that royalty is expected, there is no false modesty about keeping the information out of the papers. The lobby soon has its quota of photographers and reporters ready to record the occasion.

The theatre, of course, does not always know in advance who is likely to turn up. Six or eight seats may merely have been booked in the name of Buckingham Palace or Clarence House. A Bond Street theatrical agency keeps seats available for just such a request.

It is the Queen who is going to attend, managers are likely to receive some prior notice because of the security arrangements involved.

But visits by Princess Margaret or the Queen Mother may have been booked in the name of a personal friend. Then the manager is left to guess as to who will arrive. Hints over the telephone—"a very important person will be in the party"—usually is clue enough.

The Queen's attendance at a theatre can have a startling effect on box-office receipts. When she went to see "The Young Elizabeth"—a good play that was doing far from house-full business—it provided a slippage that kept it running for many extra months.

Even the most casual visits by Princess Margaret or the Duchess of Kent can send takings up by £200 a week.

Stimulated

A PLAY like "Angels in Love"—which was coolly received by the critics—finds its box-office returns stimulated because someone has taken Princess Margaret to see it.

For again the public demonstrates as little discrimination—where royalty is concerned—about the theatre as it does about films. If Princess Margaret has been to see it that is good enough for it.

But, in private, the Princess has some fairly blunt and critical opinions about plays she has seen. And some enthusiastic about advertising, the fact that she had seen their plays if they could hear what she really thought of them.

A public following like sheep the visits of royalty can do the theatre no good. Plays should be judged on their merits and not by the rank of audience in the stalls.

Over-eager

IT is, indeed, heartening that so many members of the Royal Family are genuinely interested in the films and the stage. But over-eager publicity men can do much to undermine the undoubted value royal patronage can have on the arts. Perhaps this warning is particularly topical at this time, for soon there will be another royal taste for which Shaftesbury Avenue will have to cater. When and where will Prince Charles see his first pantomime?

TRULY FORMIDABLE TRIAL FOR DETERMINED GENTS

By LES ARMOUR

LAST week 230 determined gents sat down in a Brussels hotel to fight the latest round in the battle to put a stop to "the decadence of the culinary arts."

Led by a gourmet of missionary fervour and limitless moral conviction called Joseph Tissot, they launched into a truly formidable trial without flinching.

Every man of them downed eight courses and tossed down 34 kinds of wine and several sorts of brandy.

NO CASUALTIES

So far as anyone has been able to find out, there were no casualties. And Mr. Tissot even claimed some members of the company dined afterwards. What is more surprising, the stout-stomached warriors, each paid £2 towards the cost of the dinner.

M. Tissot states their case thus: "Gourmets—the real connoisseurs who know how to appreciate their food and wine—are dying out. We are becoming gourmets—gluttons who eat for the sake of eating."

And he insists that his occasional displays of marathon eating are "absolutely necessary" to stem the tide.

He feels, moreover, that each of his stout eaters will carry their conviction with them to the grave.

"The stomach is part of the human body gifted with a true memory. A great meal is an agreeable memory which landmarks the road of life in an unforgettable manner."

No doubt his Brussels battle is enough to landmark any body's memory for all time. It is not enough to guarantee a bed case of stomach sleep as well. But there will be "eats" who will question the principle of the thing.

After downing 34 wines and several brandies, it may fairly be doubted as to whether anyone is really in a condition to appreciate anything.

Nor is it probable that eight massive courses can be consumed by anyone with genuine enjoyment.

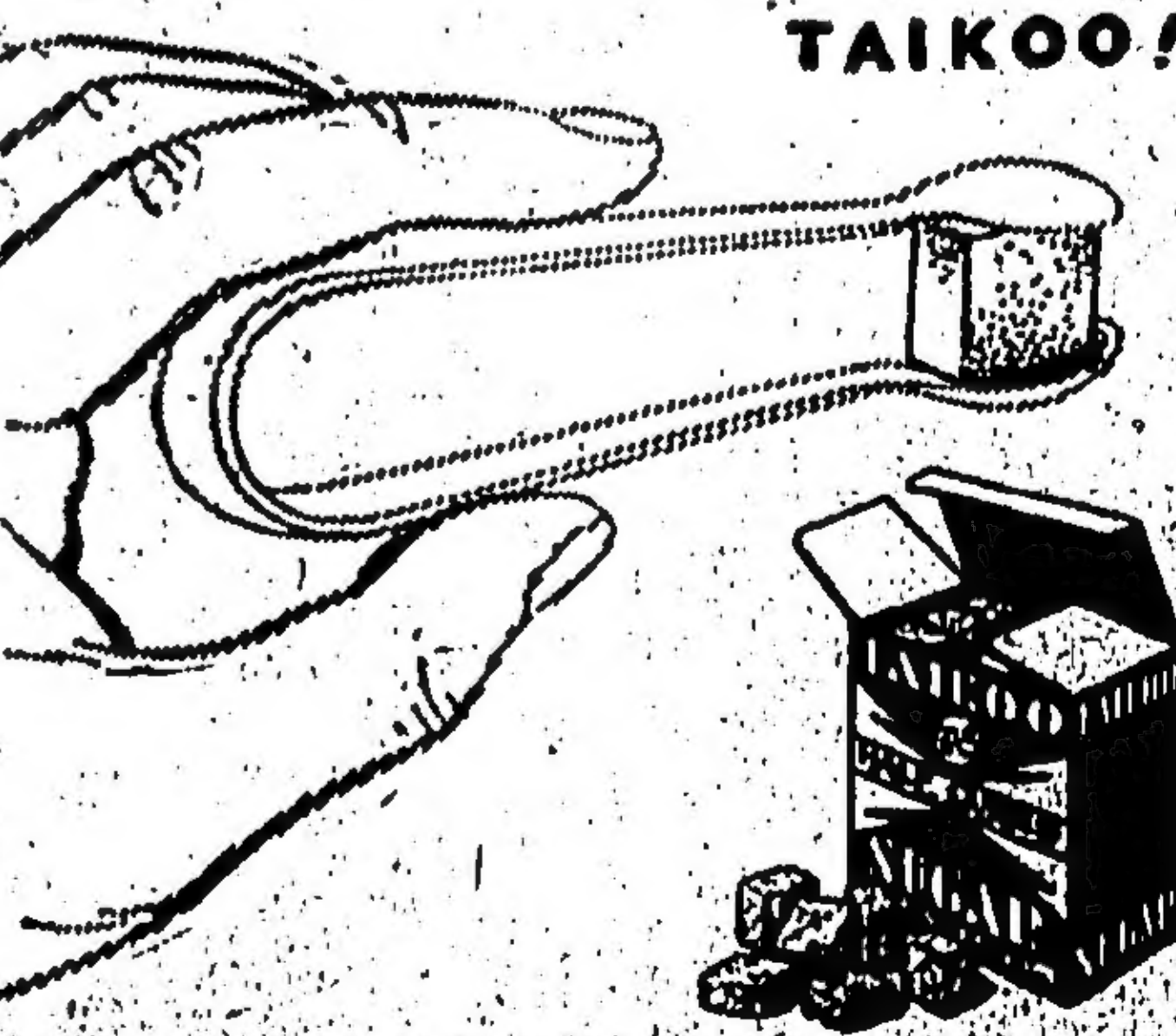
SIMPLER FARE

It is in fact doubtful as to whether any of the missionaries will be able to enjoy their grub for a week afterwards.

Simpler souls may assert that a modest plate of good old English stew, followed by a pudding and a cup of good black coffee, is the early dawn of a sumptuous culinary treat to satisfy man or god.

Some may even hold that a sizzling plate of bacon and eggs and a cup of good black coffee in the early dawn are a sumptuous culinary treat to satisfy man or god.

"One Lump-or Two?"
...make sure it's
TAIKOO!



TAIKOO SUGAR
Half Cubes

Obtainable from all grocers and delicatessens

• BY • THE • WAY •

by Beachcomber

A BRASS BAND hdd to retire from a competition the other day, when it was discovered that it had been rehearsing the wrong test-piece for three months.

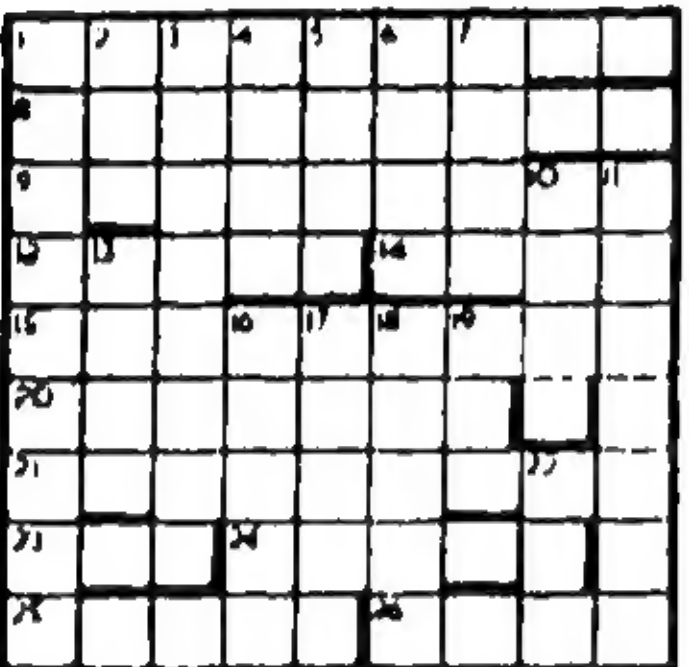
There was once a man who took lessons in conjuring. In order to be able to amuse people. One day he turned up at a party dressed as a Chinese mandarin. The first thing he threw a handkerchief over it, fired a toy-pistol, waved his fan, and proceeded to pull out of his mouth the flags of all the nations on a string. When the handkerchief was recovered from the bowl, the conjurer said this was absurd. He could have brought the flags with him. What they expected was to see the goldfish bowl disappear. The conjurer admitted that he had got things wrong. The conjurer might have ended! So, you see.

Now we know

A close study of charts, diagrams, and statistics, and the questioning of some 333,019 citizens, it has been established that the reason why pedestrians in the higher age-groups knocked down in the streets than those in the lower age-groups, is that they are less quick on their feet. This is thought to be due to their age.

Another startling discovery is that those with eyesight hesitate more than those with good eyesight. This is believed to be due to their being unable

CROSSWORD

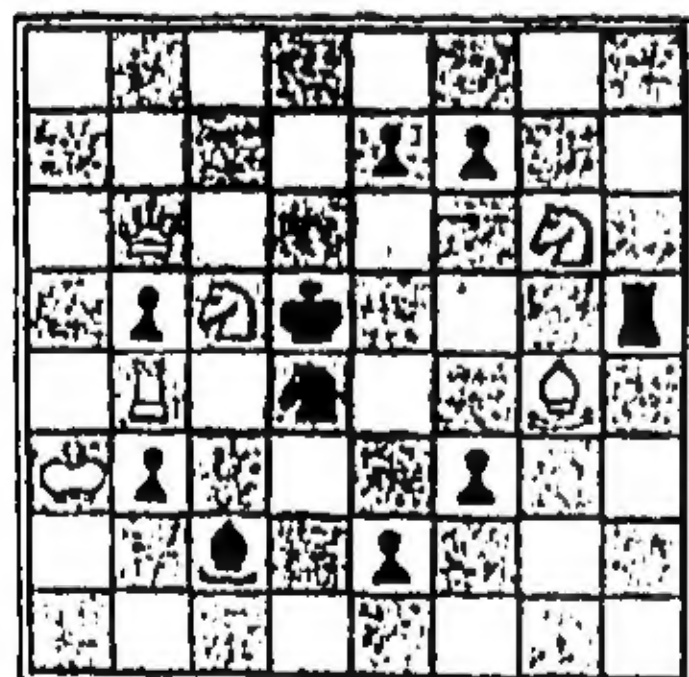


- Across
1. Was Tucker dumbfounded? (10)
 2. Only flimsy believe polemically. (4)
 3. Make sense of a sad up after a war. (9)
 4. Take away the wilderness of a hill from the river. (10)
 5. A good one is essential at many moments. (4)
 6. Orate and I appear with a girl in the middle. (10)
 7. The rule goes around. (4)
 8. Just the place for a building. (4)
 9. Speed with an ear impaled you might say. (10)
 10. Ripe for irritation. (4)
 11. A gun? O! That's a change. (10)
 12. Byron's Venice not shared on her hundred. (10)
 13. Horace's (10)
 14. A team of (10)
 15. A team of (10)
 16. A team of (10)
 17. A team of (10)
 18. A team of (10)
 19. A team of (10)
 20. A team of (10)

- Down
1. Stale goes round the atom. (10)
 2. An exclamation makes his back. (4)
 3. He tests your knowledge. (10)
 4. Royal address to a horse. (10)
 5. Problem are happier without them, said Mr. Lear. (4)
 6. It goes with companions, right to the top of the ladder. (4)
 7. The rule goes around. (4)
 8. Just the place for a building. (4)
 9. Speed with an ear impaled you might say. (10)
 10. Ripe for irritation. (4)
 11. A gun? O! That's a change. (10)
 12. Byron's Venice not shared on her hundred. (10)
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 15. A team of (10)
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 17. A team of (10)
 18. A team of (10)
 19. A team of (10)
 20. A team of (10)

CHESS PROBLEM

By C. GOLDSCHMEDING
Black, 10 pieces.



White, 6 pieces.
White to play; mate in two.
Solution to yesterday's problem:
1. B-B2, any; 2. Q, R, or K mates.

DUMB-BELLS



A VIOLINIST who plays a classical music in a London street has given me a good lesson in conjuring. He said, "If people start to jeer, I give them a bit of Bach. That drives them away." When, at a concert, cries of "Cut it out!" and "Shut up!" were heard, the musician should at once give them a bit of Bach, shouting "Take that—and like it!" as the audience troops out in disgust and anger.

In passing
THEY always seem to be on the way to the hockey-field," says a Frenchman, writing about Eng. H. H. As it says in "Kil. I. Golden Hour". After secretly observing the unadorned grace of her movements, the most celebrated picture-maker of the province turned the implements of his craft, and began life anew as a trainer of performing elephants.

JACOBY ON BRIDGE

Know Your Partner
And You'll Win

By OSWALD JACOBY

SOUTH'S jump overall of three hearts in today's hand was used to show strength. Some experts use the jump overall as a kind of shut-out bid, but to show a very strong hand which would welcome a light raise. It's important, of course, to know exactly what your partner means when he makes this kind of bid.

In this case, North knew that his partner was showing a strong hand, and he very properly followed suit. South naturally went back to hearts, and the game in hearts became the final contract.

West opened the eight of spades, and East won with the ace. East thought to himself, "Wouldn't it be fine if my partner had no more spades and could ruff the second round?" And just to try his good fortune, East returned the queen of spades.

East had his wish, but it did him no good. West ruffed the

NORTH		SOUTH	
♠ 4	♠ 8	♠ 7	♠ 3
♥ 10	♥ 9	♥ 10	♥ 9
♦ 10	♦ 10	♦ 10	♦ 10
♣ 10	♣ 10	♣ 10	♣ 10
♠ 10	♠ 10	♠ 10	♠ 10
♥ 10	♥ 10	♥ 10	♥ 10
♦ 10	♦ 10	♦ 10	♦ 10
♣ 10	♣ 10	♣ 10	♣ 10

king of spades and returned a club to South's ace.

South now led one of his low spades toward dummy, and West shut out dummy by ruffing with the nine of hearts.

This was the third and last trick for the defenders. West led another club, and dummy won with the king. Declarer properly led the king of diamonds, from the dummy. South covered with the ace, and South ruffed. Now declarer could lead his last spade and ruff with dummy's eight of hearts. In order to cash the queen of diamonds and thus discard his losing club, South easily won the rest with the five highest trumps.

East could have defeated the contract by returning a trump at the second trick. South would win, of course, but if he then led the king of spades, West would ruff and return the nine of hearts. Thus South would be prevented from ruffing any spades in the dummy. Nor could declarer establish a diamond trick since dummy would have only one entry. At best, South would make nine tricks.

CARD SENSE

Q—With both eldes vulnerable, the bidding has been:

West: 1 Heart, 2 Spade, 3 Spade, 4 Spade, 5 Spade, 6 Spade, 7 Spade, 8 Spade, 9 Spade, 10 Spade, 11 Spade, 12 Spade, 13 Spade, 14 Spade, 15 Spade, 16 Spade, 17 Spade, 18 Spade, 19 Spade, 20 Spade, 21 Spade, 22 Spade, 23 Spade, 24 Spade, 25 Spade, 26 Spade, 27 Spade, 28 Spade, 29 Spade, 30 Spade, 31 Spade, 32 Spade, 33 Spade, 34 Spade, 35 Spade, 36 Spade, 37 Spade, 38 Spade, 39 Spade, 40 Spade, 41 Spade, 42 Spade, 43 Spade, 44 Spade, 45 Spade, 46 Spade, 47 Spade, 48 Spade, 49 Spade, 50 Spade, 51 Spade, 52 Spade, 53 Spade, 54 Spade, 55 Spade, 56 Spade, 57 Spade, 58 Spade, 59 Spade, 60 Spade, 61 Spade, 62 Spade, 63 Spade, 64 Spade, 65 Spade, 66 Spade, 67 Spade, 68 Spade, 69 Spade, 70 Spade, 71 Spade, 72 Spade, 73 Spade, 74 Spade, 75 Spade, 76 Spade, 77 Spade, 78 Spade, 79 Spade, 80 Spade, 81 Spade, 82 Spade, 83 Spade, 84 Spade, 85 Spade, 86 Spade, 87 Spade, 88 Spade, 89 Spade, 90 Spade, 91 Spade, 92 Spade, 93 Spade, 94 Spade, 95 Spade, 96 Spade, 97 Spade, 98 Spade, 99 Spade, 100 Spade, 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TODAY'S QUESTION

The bidding is the same as in the question just answered. You South hold: Spades 7-5, Hearts A-K-3, Clubs 7-3-2. What do you do?

Answer: Reopen.



"Just put her down anywhere."

YOUR BIRTHDAY... BY STELLA

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29

BORN today, you have many of the characteristics of greatness. Quiet and reserved, you are often somewhat austere, especially when in the company of those with whom you are not very well acquainted. However, you have an extremely warm heart toward those who are within your own family circle. Those you love care to do wrong and will defend them to the last. You have a keen sense of humor and it will help you out of many a tight spot, as when things get very rough, you can grin and make the best of it.

You have a tremendous capacity for taking care of all detail work. But you must guard against being put on a job where that is all you are given to do—just because you are so good at it. For there is another side to your nature which is imaginative, inventive and creative in literature or the arts. The stage appeals to you as an art form and this might prove a highly lucrative career for you. Once you have set your mind on something, you have the will to put your idea through to completion, come what may.

Among those who were born on this date are: Anna Com, opera singer; Fannie Brice, Comedienne; Queen Marie of Rumania; Thomas F. Bayard, statesman; Francis Hodgson Burnett, author; Robert Hood, inventor; and William B. Tappan, poet.

To find what the stars have in store for you tomorrow, select your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 23)—Speak softly today—but have the big stick handy, in case you need to strike. You're alert.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)—Most aspects are sufficiently neutral so that trouble can be avoided. If you are prepared to meet minor aspects.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 20)—Should be a fine day for leading. Relax tensions and enjoy yourself. Just be careful if driving a train.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—The little extra fact will finally prove itself this morning. Otherwise, it's a fine day.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)—Everything seems to go along fine. Don't do any office work unless you have to—mind that only in the morning.

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 20)—Avoid making an error in your calculation, especially if going out of town, and all goes well.

TAURUS (Apr. 21-May 21)—Careless habits could cause an accident, so be careful and all will go well with you.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)—You must mess things up by being too impulsive. It's all right, but don't let it happen.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)—Your judgment may not be quite so sound as it should be so give any decision a second thought before committing it to yourself.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 23)—Make your plans carefully for your weekday, especially if going out of town, and all goes well.

VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)—Everything is much better than it has been lately, so take advantage of the good period now.

LIBRA (Sept. 24-Oct. 23)—One of those half-good, half-poor days. Adhere to your original plans. Don't act impulsively on anything.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' MAGAZINE

How to Mail a Pond

—Mr. Punch Sent One to His Grandfather—

By MAX TRELL

"NOW when I was a boy," said Mr. Punch to Knarf and Hanid, the shadow-children with the turned-about names, "I did some pretty remarkable things. For instance, one day I sent my grandfather a whole pond in a letter."

Mr. Punch stopped to smile. He waited for Knarf and Hanid to exclaim in astonishment, which is something they did the very next moment.

"What did you say?" exclaimed Hanid.

"An Impossible Feat"

"Nobody could send a pond in a letter!" said Knarf.

"My dear Knarf and my dear Hanid," said Mr. Punch. "I just told you that when I was a boy I did some pretty remarkable things. I meant what I said when I said that I sent a pond in a letter to my grandfather."

"But how could you?" asked Hanid. "A pond is full of water."

"It is indeed," said Mr. Punch, nodding. He continued: "There is nothing so full of water as a pond, except perhaps a glass of water which is much the same thing, only smaller."

Knarf and Hanid begged Mr. Punch to explain how he managed to send a pond in a letter to his grandfather.

"It gives me great pleasure to be able to tell you everything," said Mr. Punch. "Some day you may find that you want to send

It Was His Straight Left Which Took Dower To The Top

Says DENNIS HART

At Harringay last week I saw something which Britain invented, perfected, and which remains supreme—the straight left.

If you doubt me, ask Jake Tull. Before being introduced to the left hand of Welsh coal miner Dai Dower, Jake was the British Empire Flyweight Champion. After 15 rounds, in which Dower's piston-like left jabs beat a constant tattoo on his face, Tull was another ex-champ.

He tried all he knew to keep the title. He bobbed, weaved, crouched and threw punches all the time, from all angles. But always Dower's left was there to keep him at bay.

The effervescent Dower now has the boxing world at his twinkling feet. At 21, he is the leading contender for Japanese Yochi Shirai's world crown. On his form against Tull he can win it, and enjoy a long reign.

ONE DANGER

There is one danger. The left that has taken Dower to the top must not dominate his

boxing. There is an old ring proverb which says "world champions have right hands." Many are the British Champions who have forgotten it and come unscathed.

Witness another recent hope, Sammy McCarthy. He disposed of all his British opponents, using, like Dower, an educated left. But men of the Ray Farnoch, Hogan Bassey class soon exposed the limitations of a one-punch boxer. Sammy learnt his lesson, however; he began throwing rights, and is back at the top.

Dower, I think, will take note. There is something of a Gene

Tunney in his make-up. He knows where he wants to go, and how to get there.

He showed this against Tull. Towards the end of the fight he was well on top and, with two thousand fellow countrymen cheering him on, he must have been sorely tempted to step in and try for a spectacular finish.

This would almost certainly have resulted in disaster. For there isn't a flyweight living to match Tull in a punching duel. Dai refrained, and won.

And Dai couldn't have a better adviser than manager Nat Sellar, trainer of 15 British champions, including Freddie Mills. As general manager of the recently closed Jack Solomon's gymnasium, Nat looked after a host of other world

KNOWS MORE

Clearly Mr Sellar knows more about boxing than just straight lefts.

So, with the combination of a fighter willing and able to learn, and a manager willing and able to teach, how can they go wrong? But Tull, no doubt, has also learnt lessons from the fight. So the next Dower-Tull scrap—there must be one sometime—may be even better than the last. We may see a left-jabbing Dower, with a solid right to follow, against a hard-slugging Tull, with skill to match his punch.

(London Express Service).

No Outflanking The Wing-Forward Problem In Today's Rugby

London, Oct. 28.

There is no outflanking the wing-forward problem. Throughout the close-season in Britain, students of Rugby Union football have discussed it, and it comes sharply into focus with the opening of a new season here.

The International Board's changes in the rules now take effect, and critics ask: Will they overcome the intensive spoiling seen last year, and encourage open play?

There is little that the British fan does not know about "spoiling", as he commonly calls them, but always of particular interest are the views of any visitor.

John Hayhurst, a New Zealand journalist, in his book "The Fourth All Blacks 1953-1954" (published by Longmans, 15/-), makes some pointed comments.

"There were a great many times on the tour," he writes, "when the opposing back-row forwards ranked amongst the (New Zealanders') five-eighths and round to the half to such an extent that no one but a wizard could have broken through."

If this "blocking" had occurred through sheer speed of the mark — "speed" such as the Frenchman Jean Prat and Dower could show, or the English backer Wilson or Elliott of Scotland," he says — there could have been no complaint.

But he argues, there were many of lesser quality who ran forward in front of the ball and then made little effort to get back on side.

"TO A FINE ART" They were "professional" players who had the trick down to a fine art" and who "too often got away with it match after match."

In a book of 267 pages, Mr Hayhurst analyses the All Blacks with admirable thoroughness. With Britain due to send a team to South Africa at the end of this season, there will be special interest there and in Britain in the "British team" which, he says, the New Zealanders might have picked from those against whom they played.

Australians, who saw the British Lions in 1950, will know some of the names. Mr Hayhurst lists them in this way: Full-back, Gervyn Williams (Wales); wing — three-quarters, Ken Jones (Wales) right, T.G. Weatherstone (Scotland) left; W.P.C. Davies (England), J. Butterfield (England) centres; stand-off half, Cliff Morgan (Wales); scrum-half, T.A. O'Meara (Ireland); front row props, J.H. Smith (Ireland) and D.L. Sanders (England).

"Bayer's" TONIC



When we are privileged with the presence of a great artist as "Pavle Zivkovic" we should have no excuse for missing his visit at the "Empire Theatre" on Saturday, Oct. 23 at 8.30.

Denis Compton Playing Against S. Australia

Adelaide, Oct. 29.

Denis Compton, who arrived here from England two days ago, will play for the MCC in the four-day game against South Australia which begins today.

It is not surprising that Compton pressed for inclusion in this match because the Adelaide Oval is one of his favourite grounds. Eight years ago he achieved the rare feat of hitting 147 and 103 not out here.

Everyone hopes he will find his form quickly, ensuring no possibility of the ill luck which dogged him on the last tour of Australia when his Test innings yielded an aggregate of 53 runs for an average of 7.57.

FULL OF CONFIDENCE

Compton joins a team full of confidence after their two splendid victories in Perth. Those early MCC triumphs have shaken even the most die-hard Australians who are not as optimistic as when the tourists disembarked at Fremantle three weeks ago.

The MCC have named 12 players for the match. One of the bowlers nominated will be omitted.

It is satisfactory to note that Reg Simpson and Tom Graveney, the only batsmen yet to settle down, are included. Both are splendid stroke makers but it will be a challenge to the England Test selectors' job if they find their true form as it seems difficult to see how Vic Wilson can possibly be omitted from the big matches after his sure play and magnificent fielding at Perth.

At this early stage of the season, the Adelaide ground has not yet recovered from the effects of football. There is little grass on the pitch which probably will be very slow-paced.

Perfect conditions for cricket prevailed yesterday when the MCC practised at this most delightful ground, which for scenery and amenities is unequalled anywhere. Such a setting should inspire the best from the players.

The team—L. Hutton (Captain), R.T. Simpson, M.C. Cowdrey, W. J. Edrich, D.C.B. Compton, T.W. Graveney, J.H. Wardle, P.J. Loader, J. McCulloch, F.H. Tyson, K. Andrew, R. Appleyard.—Reuter.

World Basketball Championship

Rio de Janeiro, Oct. 28. The United States defeated France 70 to 49 in their game in the World Championship basketball tournament. The United States scored three straight 30-point halves in tonight's game. The United States led France 21 to 0 at the end of the first quarter. The United States led France 41 to 11 at the end of the second quarter. The United States led France 61 to 21 at the end of the third quarter. The United States led France 70 to 49 at the end of the fourth quarter.

CONGRATULATIONS



Dai Dower receiving congratulations the morning after he won the Empire Flyweight Championship from Jake Tull.—Central Press Photo.

Chataway Can't Charm Away The Sportsman Of The Year Award

Says DESMOND HACKETT

Who are the sports stars, the sports stars of England? The answer is simple, gloriously simple — the sports stars are the boy and girl athletes. From their amateur ranks will come the Sportsman of the Year. Right now I say the honour will go to Chris Chataway, the auburn-haired hero who won that unforgettable duel on the run against Soviet sailor Vladimir Kuts.

There will be many among those present who will argue against this accolade for Chataway, and the first dissentient will be Chris Chataway himself. I can just imagine him turning on the charm and quietly saying: "Jolly nice thought, but I mean what about Roger Bannister?"

"You know Roger arrived first when the rest of the world were racing madly around to beat the four-minute mile." Bannister, pushing back that dishevelled blond lock of hair, will opine in the precise tones befitting his profession as a doctor. "Definitely it should be Chris."

"Recall that when I had the good fortune to break the four-minute job Chataway was considerably helpful." "When Chris so magnificently beat Kuts I might say there was a considerable lack of assistance."

ALL DESERVE IT There are a whole string of deserving characters from this sports-for-all arena who deserve the No. 1 sports title. Girls like Jean Desforges, who always runs and jumps so splendidly for club, county, or country and shy 18-year-old sprinter Jean Scrivens, will

soon become Britain's first lady of sport. There is Ken Norris, who thought it was just a lot of fun when he licked Russian strong-man Alexander Anisiev. There is the steeplechaser John Disley, idol of the schoolboys. They have decorated the international sports arenas with



... girls like Jean Desforges.

their gay spirit and their considerable skill despite the worst facilities in the world. IRON WILL That was why only the iron will of the Hacketts restrained me beating a stupid model of a hat over the eyes of the woman who said —

"My dear, don't those English athletes look perfectly frightful."

Individual results were as follows: Mrs R. R. Coombe, lost to Air Vice Marshal Scherger; Mrs D. L. Anderson beat Air Commodore Field; Mrs E. W. Brooks halved with Wg/Cdr. Krusin; Mrs L. H. Robinson beat S/Ldr. Enrie; Mrs J. B. Mackie lost to S/Ldr. Brooks; Mrs J. Shoemaker beat S/Ldr. Beall; Mrs W. P. Birchwhistle beat F/Lt. Hall; Mrs J. R. Letch halved with F/Lt. Adams; Mrs E. Hayes beat F/Lt. Legh; Mrs F. Hawkins lost to F/Lt. Pile; Mrs J. Wai halved with Fg/Off. Brown; Mrs W. Hung lost to Fg/Off. Plumby.

The troupe included Frank Sedgman, Francisco Segura and Fanchio Gonzalez. Mrs Sedgman accompanied her husband.

Jack Kramer And Troupe Leave The four top professional tennis aces, including Jack Kramer, who gave a series of exhibition games here, left for Manila yesterday by Philippine Air Lines.

The troupe included Frank Sedgman, Francisco Segura and Fanchio Gonzalez. Mrs Sedgman accompanied her husband.

A MATTER OF PING AND PONG! THE ROWE TWINS BEG TO DIFFER OVER THE USE OF THE SPONGE BAT

By ERIC NICHOLLS

It's all very disquieting, really! Mrs Rowe's famous Greenford, Middlesex, ping pong twins—yes, that's what the Rowes call table tennis—may be hardly distinguishable apart.

But there is a distinct cleft in the opinions of these young ladies. Left-handed Diane and right-handed Rosalind beg to differ over a little piece of rubber called sponge.

At its more mention the grey-green eyes of Singles Champion Rosalind flash. "It should definitely be banned," she says. "Not because we cannot master it, but during these past years we have made great strides in building the game up."

"With sponge the table tennis strokes have deteriorated. The actual world's singles final between two sponge-users only lasted about 25 minutes, and the rallies were of a few seconds duration. The points were not really won with good strokes but by the sponge."

Over to Diane, the other half of this world-beating doubles pair. "We must conquer the sponge by beating it. Then it will die out. We must remember that sponge was used many years ago. It died out then because eventually it was mastered. "Also, sponge creates a really great interest among not only our players, but also spectators, who come along just to see what all the fuss is about. Before it lowers the standard of the game, we still have found a way to master it."

Sponge has, in fact, invaded the tranquillity of English table tennis. Everyone is perfectly happy in the world of ping and pong until the ladies and gentlemen of Japan decided, with malice aforethought, no doubt, to bring that instrument of aggression to the last World Championships.

The fact that they duly knocked the stuffing out of almost everyone they met and returned to the land of Nippon with both Swivling and Corbillion Cups only added to the discomfiture of their opponents.

FLUTTER AND FLURRY The flutter and the flurry which greeted this astounding and unexpected bit of work has been subdued. And I doubt whether the adventurous gentlemen who first applied expanded rubber (that's the technical description) to a bat, realised what a controversial object he was creating.

With England's ping-pong—sorry, table tennis—public having already rolled up their sleeves to face the challenges of the new season, the indications are that sponge will be in considerable use.

But you'll want to know something more of this variety of rubber that can arouse such high feelings in the world of sport. The expanded rubber is taken from latex foam. It grips the ball and releases it in catapult fashion.

Sponge in itself has many advantages for the attacking player. It makes for greater pace and a greater variety of pace. The opponent can never tell which way the ball will come at him, and there is no sound as he strikes ball. It's rather upsetting when you don't get a ping in reply to your pong.

One disadvantage, and this would appear to be the only one, is that you cannot get the same control in defence. But the vast majority of attacking players, and for them there are no angles, English players and their first real experience of the re-incarnated sponge last year when Leach and Bergmann toured Sweden.

Our two top men were repeatedly beaten by Swedish Champions Tage Flaberg, who used a sponge-faced bat. It was generally felt then, as now, that sponge is the winner rather than the player.

SAW THE LIGHT The ETTA saw the light then, and with the World Championships just around the corner, made plans to bring Alex Ehrlich from France to coach England's team on how to play against sponge. But arrangements came unstuck. Players at the time said it would be far better to practise against English sponge-users.

Britain's top players still shy away from sponge. But a gradual trend towards it is shown by the increased sales in sponge by one of London's main sports outfitters.

For although the majority may not turn over to sponge they must get used to playing against it. Only in this way can the psychological advantage be overcome. At the moment, the mere sight of sponge is about enough to send some players a-pinging and a-ponging.

WHAT OTHERS THINK You've heard what Rosalind and Diane Rowe think of sponge. What do other top-liners feel about this new weapon of attack? Over to them:

Victor Barna (five times World Singles Champion and winner of 10 other world titles): "Thirty years ago when I started playing table tennis I tried the sponge bat, but preferred the other type. Sponge does make for harder shots and is better for attacking players. But it is difficult to control. It does not, however, make for attractive play. Like the net-rushing game in lawn tennis, rallies are often little more than one or two shots in duration."

Johnny Leach (former World Champion and English international): "I think it would be a sign of weakness to ban the sponge bat. It should merely be discouraged. I personally find it more difficult to control my play when using one."

Jack Christman (Director of Coaching): "The complete stroke player would not want the bat anyway. It only seems to help the ordinary player."

Geoff Owen (International Umpire and Referee): "I think a lot of players will take it up, especially those who favour the attacking game. They have the advantage in as much as a defender does not get the accustomed sound of his striking ball, and has not that split-second 'ping' which anticipates his opponent's stroke."

To sponge or not to sponge? It seems to be all a matter of ping and pong! (London Express Service).

Melbourne Cup Acceptors A total of 29 acceptors was announced today for the Melbourne Cup, Australian classic horse race, to be run over two miles at Flemington Racecourse on Tuesday next. First prize is A £10,000 (£24,000).

The acceptors are: Blarney (9 st. 5 lbs.), Gallant Archer (8/13), Advocate (8/11), Sunish (8/10), Electro (8/7), Totara (8/6), Surprise Ending (8/4), Pismo (8/1), Master Proven (8 st.), Commodore Empathic, King Amara and Tasmanian (each 7/13), Hail Past Seven (7/12), Hellion (7/11), Sir Coral (7/8), Captain Hunter and Great Performance (7/7), Prince Delville (7/4), Spar Folly (7/4), Ribana (7/2), Gay Gambler and Sunrise (7/8), Blarney (7/8), and Triloch (6/12), Prescot (6/10).—Reuter.

Yorick II Wins Jockey Club Cup Newmarket, Oct. 28. Baron Guy de Rothschild's three-year-old colt Yorick II won the Jockey Club Cup, worth £2,500 and run over two miles, two days ago here. There was a photo finish for second and third places between Mr R. W. Sharple Woodcut and Mr James de Boscawen's Brilliant Green. Eight ran. The judge placed Woodcut second and Brilliant Green third.—Reuter.

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"NELLORE"	Leaves	From	Sails For
2nd Dec.	do	Singapore, Penang, Rangoon, Calcutta, Bombay, Aden, Port Said, Genoa, Marseilles, Havre, London, Antwerp, Rotterdam & Hamburg	do

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General Post Office, Box 641, and
you will receive free of charge an
interesting booklet.

FOOTLOCKER Consult Dr. Schell's
Foot Comfort Service, Telephone
House (Mezzanine Floor) Hongkong.
Qualified Chiropodist in attendance.
Telephone 27181. Air-conditioned.

MUSICAL

TEST your Hi-Fi Machines with
Westminster Test Records. Also re-
ceived latest Gramo request series of
symphonies, suites, instrumental at
J. Lewis Vox Road, Room 1, 2nd
floor, telephone 29106.

STAMPS

SOMETHING NEW and EXCLUSIVE.
Fresh stocks received of collectors
pocket size of a complete set. From
20 cents per packet upwards. An
entirely new series. South China
Morning Post Ltd., Wyndham Street
and Salisbury Road, Kowloon.

The Hongkong & Yumati Ferry Co., Ltd. FERRY SERVICE TO OUTLYING DISTRICTS (In force on and after the 1st November, 1954.)

CHEUNG CHAU FERRY SERVICE

Leaving HONGKONG for CHEUNG CHAU	Leaving CHEUNG CHAU for HONGKONG
0.20 a.m. — (Direct)	4.00 a.m. — (Via Aberdeen & W.S.)
8.05 " — (Direct)	7.45 " — (Via S.M.B. & P.C.)
9.00 " — (Via P.C. & S.M.B.)	7.45 " — (Direct)
10.00 " — (Direct)	10.20 " — (Direct)
11.00 " — (Via P.C. & S.M.B.)	11.00 " — (Via S.M.B. & P.C.)
11.30 " — (Direct from W.S.)	11.15 " — (Direct)
1.30 p.m. — (Direct)	1.15 p.m. — (Direct)
1.45 " — (Via P.C. & S.M.B.)	1.30 " — (Via S.M.B. & P.C.)
3.45 " — (Direct)	3.00 " — (Direct to W.S.)
4.00 " — (Via P.C. & S.M.B.)	4.15 " — (Direct)
5.00 " — (Via Aberdeen from W.S.)	4.30 " — (Via S.M.B. & P.C.)
5.45 " — (Direct)	5.45 " — (Direct)

SILVERMINE BAY FERRY SERVICE

Leaving HONGKONG for SILVERMINE BAY	Leaving SILVERMINE BAY for HONGKONG
9.00 a.m. — (Via P.C.)	7.15 a.m. — (Via P.C.)
10.15 " — (Direct)	11.30 " — (Via P.C.)
11.00 " — (Via P.C.)	2.00 p.m. — (Via P.C.)
1.45 p.m. — (Via P.C.)	4.45 " — (Direct)
2.45 " — (Direct)	5.00 " — (Via P.C.)
4.00 " — (Via P.C.)	5.20 " — (Via C.C.)

SUNDAYS & PUBLIC HOLIDAYS ONLY.
SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS & PUBLIC HOLIDAYS ONLY.

PING CHAU FERRY SERVICE

Leaving HONGKONG for PING CHAU	Leaving PING CHAU for HONGKONG
9.00 a.m.	7.35 a.m.
11.00 "	11.50 "
1.45 p.m.	2.20 p.m.
4.00 "	5.20 "

TAI O — CASTLE PEAK FERRY SERVICE

Leaving HONGKONG	Leaving TAI O
Hongkong 2.00 p.m.	Tai O 7.00 a.m.
Kap Sui Mun 3.00 "	Tung Chung 8.00 "
Castle Peak 3.45 "	Castle Peak 8.45 "
Tung Chung 4.30 "	Kap Sui Mun 9.15 "
Arriving Tai O 5.45 "	Arriving Hongkong 10.30 "

TAI O — SPECIAL FERRY (VIA ABERDEEN)

(From Wilmer St. Ferry Pier)
Leaving HONGKONG 4.00 p.m. LEAVING TAI O for HONGKONG 4.00 a.m.

SUNDAY & HOLIDAY EXCURSION — Direct to TAI O
Leaving Hongkong 8.00 a.m. Leaving Tai O 5.00 p.m.
(Calling at Tung Chung)

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

CIR DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES

Consignees per Company's
a.s. "CAMBODGE"

are hereby notified that their cargo is being discharged into the Hong Kong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co.'s godown, where it will be at Consignee's risk and subject to the Wharf's terms and conditions of storage and where delivery may be obtained as soon as the goods are landed.

Damaged packages are to be left in the Godown for examination by Consignees and the Company's surveyors, Messrs. Goddard & Douglas at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, 3rd November, 1954.

To comply with the General Bonded Warehouse Regulations Consignees must have a Revenue Officer in attendance when damaged dutiable goods are examined.

No claims will be admitted after the goods have left the steamer's godown, and all goods remaining undelivered after 4th November, 1954, will be subject to rent.

All claims against the steamer must be presented to the undersigned on or before 28th November, 1954, or they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

CIR DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES

Hong Kong, 29th October, 1954.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

"MYRMIDON"

Damaged cargo on this vessel will be surveyed by Messrs. Goddard & Douglas at Hoi's Wharf from 10 a.m. on November 1, 1954, and consignees are requested to have their representatives present during the survey.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE

Hong Kong, October 29, 1954.

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES P.O. Box 53 Queen's Building Tel: 26831

FAST PASSENGER/FREIGHT SERVICE

"CAMBODGE" sailing Nov. 11th

"LAOS" sailing Dec. 4th

FAST FREIGHT SERVICE

"PEI-HO" sailing Nov. 11th

"BIR HAKEIM" sailing Dec. 19th

* Accept direct cargo for Alexandria, Barcelona & London.

Alarming Accident Rate In Denmark

Copenhagen, Oct. 28.

The Danish single chamber Parliament this autumn is pledging to introduce a new and comprehensive Traffic Bill to replace the present laws and regulations, which for the most part date from the beginning of the motoring age some 50 years ago.

Although Denmark is a small country with little more than 4,000,000 people and only one very large town, Copenhagen, she is, like larger lands, faced with serious traffic problems and a mounting accident rate in consequence of the phenomenal growth of motor transport since World War II.

Up to about a year ago, when the speed limits of 37½ miles an hour in the country and 25 miles an hour in the towns were abolished, Danes regarded mechanical transport as a necessary nuisance which had to be kept to a minimum.

But with the large increase of private and commercial motor vehicles and the mushroom-like multiplication of small motor bicycles, motoring is no longer regarded as "the toy of the idle rich and the profiteers," to be made as expensive as possible by taxation and to be hampered as much as possible by legislation.

LAND OF BICYCLES

Denmark is still predominantly a land of bicycles — there is nearly one for each inhabitant in Copenhagen — but they have

already been to a large extent motorised.

Tens of thousands of office and factory workers, women as well as men, go to work either on low power motor bicycles or on bicycles with small motors attached. But already the latter are fast being discarded in favour of the former.

This means that they can all travel at 20 or more miles an hour.

Being faster than push bicycles and slower than cars, however, they create traffic problems of their own.

Under the proposed Traffic Bill, they will be required to use the roadways in towns where traffic is necessarily slower and to ride on the cycle paths in the country, where these are practically universal.

At present, no motor bicycles under 50 c.c. are required to have number plates nor are their riders obliged to have a driving licence or to pass a driving test, although all are supposed to have third party insurance.

As these machines are generally owned by the poorer classes, these exemptions will probably be maintained on democratic grounds.

Another institution which worked well enough in more leisurely days will also disappear. This was the rule that all vehicles, including bicycles, were given priority when emerging into another road from the right.

The Ministry of Justice, which has traffic problems in its care, last year encountered spirited opposition when it introduced stop signs on side roads intersecting some of the most important roads in the country.

IGNORED IN SPITE

These signs have been generally ignored in spite of spasmodic police action, followed by fines, while accidents due to vehicles of all kinds entering main roads from the right without stopping continue to rise alarmingly.

Mr. Hans Haekkerup, the Minister of Justice, has stated that he intends to press for stop signs on all roads entering the five or six principal main roads in Denmark, and there is no doubt that in time it will become the general practice to accord priority to traffic using busy roads over that coming from side roads.

Another disputed section of the Bill is the demand of the Ministry of Justice for still sharper punishment of drivers under the influence of alcohol. At present, any driver found with over 1 per cent of alcohol in his blood, whether he has been involved in an accident or not, is sent to prison for up to two months and loses his driving licence for one or more years.

ALCOHOL PERCENTAGE

The Ministry's officials now want to reduce the percentage of alcohol content to 0.6 per cent, which means that a motorist who has only drunk two beers may find himself sent to prison and banned from driving.

Another feature of the Bill, which has caused some surprise here, may make compulsory the old regulation that cyclists may not ride more than two abreast.

For anyone accustomed to the sight of Danish cyclists riding six or even more abreast, and blocking all other traffic, even that coming in the opposite direction, such a provision seems revolutionary and is certain to be hotly resisted if the police should try to enforce it.

Effective measures against jay walkers, parking on the wrong side of the road, and the non-observance of traffic lights, are also promised. At present, road users may usually ignore such provisions with impunity.

Road accidents are increasing greatly: 21 fatalities continue at the present rate; Denmark, by the end of this year, will have twice as many deaths in proportion as Great Britain, although she has only 30 per cent as many cars per thousand persons as Denmark.

British has comparatively many motor vehicles, but fewer than most other countries.

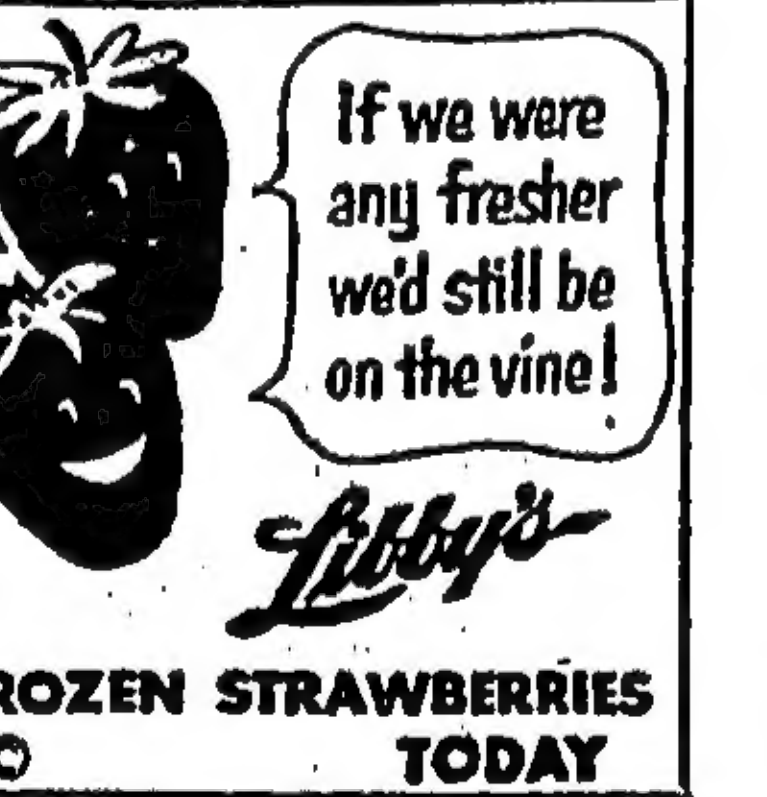
MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



FERD'NAND

By Mik



NANCY

By Ernie Bushmiller



JOHNNY HAZARD

By Frank Robbins



EVERETT LINES

EVERETT ORIENT LINE

Fast regular freight — refrigerator — passenger service to Korea, Japan, Philippines, Indo-China, Siam, Malaya, Rangoon, Calcutta and Chittagong.

"NOREVERETT"

Arrives Nov. 13 from Singapore.

Sails Nov. 13 for Kobe & Yokohama.

"REBEVERETT"

Arrives Nov. 15 from Manila.

Sails Nov. 16 for Singapore, Penang, Rangoon, Chittagong & Calcutta.

(Accepting cargo for transhipment
Kobe/Pusan and Kobe/Okinawa)

EVERETT STAR LINE

Fast regular freight — refrigerator — passenger service to Korea, Japan, Philippines, Indo-China, Siam, Malaya, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi and Persian Gulf.

"STAR BETELGEUSE"

Arrives Oct. 31 from Japan.

Sails Nov. 1 for Singapore, Port Swettenham, Medan, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi, Basmah, Khorramshahr, Kuwait & Bahrain.

"STAR ARCTURUS"

Arrives Nov. 12 from Singapore.

Sails Nov. 12 for Kobe & Yokohama.

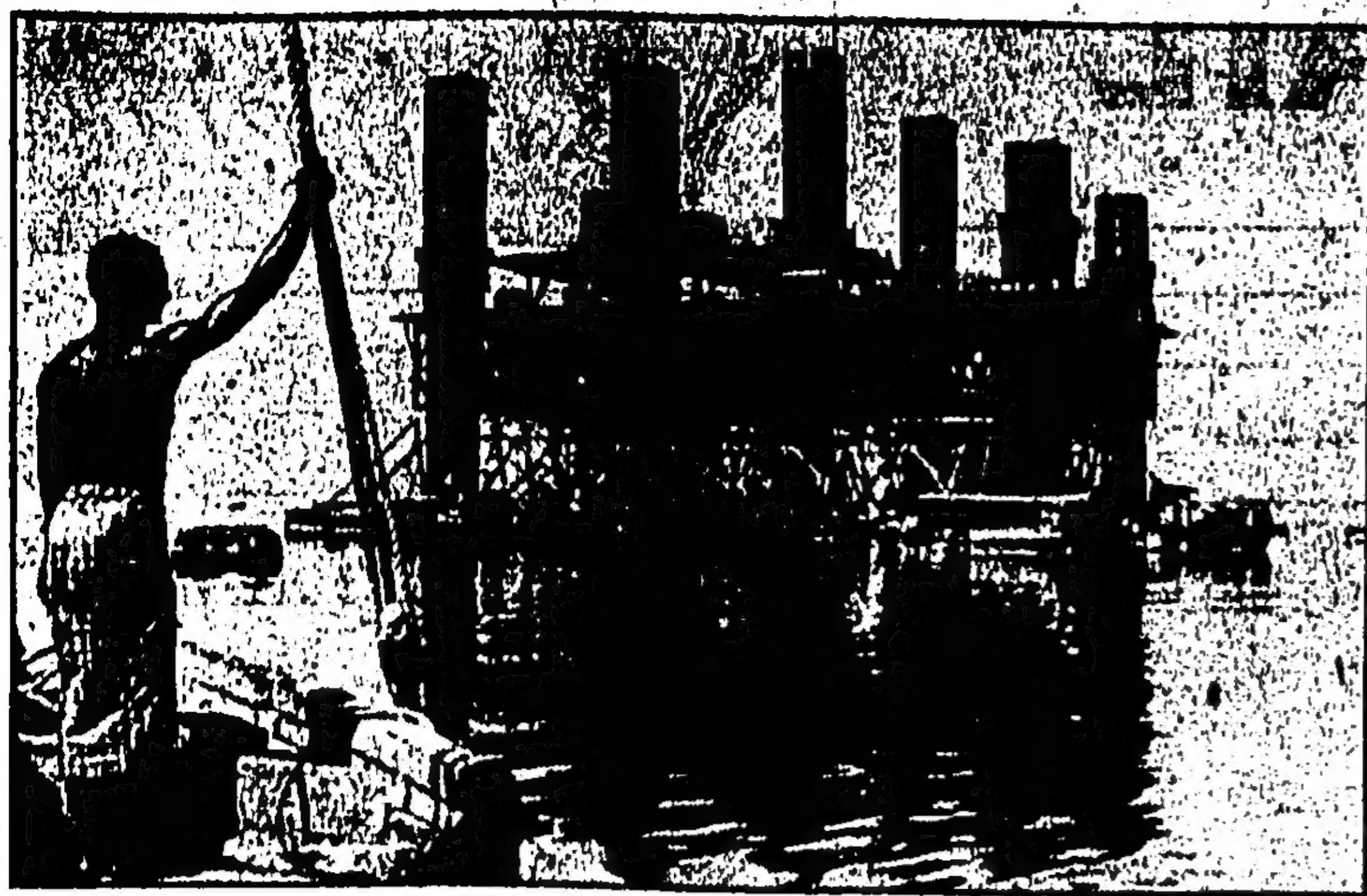
(Accepting cargo for transhipment
Kobe/Pusan and Kobe/Okinawa)

EVERETT STEAMSHIP CORPORATION S/A

(Incorporated in the Republic of Panama
with limited liability)

Chinese Department: Telephone 28293.

Queen's Building, Telephone 31206.



This queer looking object is a steel "island" erected in the Persian Gulf. It serves as a platform for heavy oil drilling machinery.

Steel Oil Island In Persian Gulf

A 1,200-ton steel "island," costing £500,000, has just been set up five miles out to sea in the burning hot Persian Gulf.

It lies off the independent kingdom of Qatar, where British interests have been seeking oil. Its purpose is to provide a strong platform for carrying the bulky drilling plant in the face of the storms which often lash the coast.

The steelwork was fabricated in the Netherlands, then shipped to Doha, where the platform was erected on top of two 1,000-ton barges.

At times, the sun burnt so fiercely, that the steel had to be dipped into the sea before it could handle it. Air-cooling had to be provided in enclosed parts so that they could endure the oven-like temperature.

Then it was towed to the drilling site, 35 miles north of Doha.

There, eight heavy steel legs incorporated in the structure were lowered to the sea bed. With the aid of powerful hydraulic jacks, the platform itself was lifted onto the legs, and the pontoons were withdrawn.

The main deck of the drilling platform is 140 feet long by 90 feet wide, and about forty feet above water level. The

drilling rig can reach a depth of 7,000-8,000 feet. There is accommodation on the "island" for two complete crews, and also storage and refrigeration facilities and air-conditioning plant.

When the first well is com-

pleted, the erection operation will be repeated in reverse. And the platform will be towed away to a new site. If oil is struck, a smaller platform will be constructed at the site to give access and protection to the well-head fittings.

Typists Giggled And Mr Uris Was Distressed

New York, Oct. 29. New Yorkers, it seems, don't like Modern Art.

"King and Queen," a controversial work by British sculptor Henry Moore, has been taken from its stand in a Manhattan office block and put under dust covers because too many New Yorkers laughed at it.

The two figures, an over-life-size statue of thin bodies and abstract heads, now sit unseen in a warehouse, their future uncertain.

Their shroud makes them look kneller than ever.

They have been in the busy lobby of a 24-storey office building in Madison Avenue's business section. Originally commissioned by the city of Amsterdam, the statue was cast again for a New York art dealer who brought it to America for Mr Percy Uris, the President of a company occupying the offices.

Its striking and sombre outlines shocked many office workers. But it got most attention from crowds of girls and typists who would circle it and giggle during lunch hour.

"Someone hit their heads with an axe" was the favourite joke.

There also came other scathing comments and there were stories of threats by certain office tenants to leave if the King and Queen did not go.

"I came to the conclusion there was no use trying to force people to like contemporary art just because I did," Mr Uris said. "I had it hauled away to a warehouse. What distressed me were the comments I heard. When I stopped in the lobby, I had to listen to the hilarity."

In November the King and Queen may be seen again, as an exhibit at the Curt Valentin Gallery, New York.

What will happen after that no one knows.

LONDON WOOL TOP MARKET

London, Oct. 28. Wool top future market closed steady with sellers tending to lower their prices. Turnover was substantial at 19 lots. Closing prices went:

Dec.	121.10
Jan.	121.10
Feb.	121.10
Mar.	121.10
Apr.	121.10
May	121.10
June	121.10
July	121.10
Aug.	121.10
Sept.	121.10
Oct.	121.10
Nov.	121.10
Dec.	121.10

\$200 RABBIT

Johannesburg, Oct. 28. An exhibitor at the Rand Spring Show at Johannesburg was offered—and refused—£200 for a rabbit.

The four-month-old rabbit, owned by Mr R. N. Barker, came first among the record entry of 258 rabbits.

The best price paid for any rabbit at the show was only £8.10. But rabbits have become a thriving local industry. With the shortage of meat, there is a greater demand for rabbit—China Mail Special.

Loudspeakers At 440 Yards

Hamilton, N.Z., Oct. 28. New Zealand's political leaders are to stage a duel in the main street of Hamilton.

Their weapons: loudspeakers at 440 yards. The "challenge" arose from an unforeseen clash in their election itineraries, bringing the Prime Minister, Mr B.O. Snowdon, and the leader of the Opposition, Mr Nash, to Hamilton the same night.

Mr Holland will speak at the 1,000-seat Embassy Theatre while Mr Nash outlines Labour policy at the State Theatre a quarter of a mile away. Both will use wide-range public microphones and loudspeaker networks booming from the street.

The Hamilton double feature is the only time the two leaders' electoral campaigns cross—China Mail Special.

NEW YORK WOOL TOP MARKET

New York, Oct. 28. Wool top futures closed 15 to 23 points lower. Closing prices:

Dec.	121.10
Jan.	121.10
Feb.	121.10
Mar.	121.10
Apr.	121.10
May	121.10
June	121.10
July	121.10
Aug.	121.10
Sept.	121.10
Oct.	121.10
Nov.	121.10
Dec.	121.10

TRADE and COMMERCE SECTION

GATT MEETING

Japan's Application Will Be Considered Today

From Our Own Correspondent

Geneva, Oct. 28.

The 34 countries of GATT will be asked tomorrow to approve Japan's application to hold tariff negotiations with a view to becoming a full member.

"Go ahead" signals are expected to be given without a vote. In fact, GATT officials are treating the matter as a bare formality.

The Japanese delegation at tomorrow's plenary session will be led by the London Ambassador, Mr Shunichi Matsumoto, who is due to arrive here by air from London only an hour or two before the conference considers Japan's application.

Mr Toru Higuchi, the Japanese Minister to Bern, who is heading the delegation until Mr Matsumoto arrives, told me today that 10 countries have accepted Japan's invitation to negotiate for the exchange of tariff concessions. Others are expected to accept shortly. But Britain, Australia and one or two other countries are holding back. Japan, said Mr Higuchi, is preparing requests for tariff reductions. These will be submitted to countries who have agreed to negotiate and they in turn will present lists of goods for which they wish to secure tariff concessions from Japan.

Mr Higuchi was confident that Japan will become a full member of GATT some time next year. "But," he added, "I have no idea of the sort of GATT it will be by then or on what terms it will be admitted to it."

ASSURANCES

The Japanese delegation is still in the dark about the attitude Britain will take towards their accession to the Agreement. They are hoping Premier Yoshida succeeded in convincing the British Government during his visit to London that Japanese membership to GATT would not endanger British trading interests.

Mr Hagihara gave a similar assurance to Mr Cyril Sanders, Board of Trade Adviser on Commercial Relations and senior member of the British delegation to GATT, at private talks this morning.

In Geneva Mr Matsumoto will try to ensure that Japan's application has the fullest support. He will impress on members

that although it is now more than two years since diplomatic relations between Japan and the West were re-established their commercial relations have still not been "normalised."

The GATT session opened today with a speech by the ex-Chairman, Mr L. Dana Willgress, of Canada. Referring to the forthcoming review of the Agreement he said: "If we cannot succeed in our main objectives of reinforcing GATT the result might very well be anarchy in world trade and economic nationalism would become rampant."

U.S. VIEWS

The United States has already circulated its views on the future of GATT to member countries. It has given notice that it will be asking for the abolition of all quota restrictions on imports. It wants GATT to have a permanent organization which would be closely linked with the International Monetary Fund and will ask for a branch office to be set up in Washington to facilitate co-operation between the two organizations.

America will also propose a revision of Clause 28 which lays down procedure for the unilateral withdrawal of previously negotiated tariff concessions and has indicated that it will be prepared to negotiate on the vexed question of export subsidies on farm products.

World Cotton Markets

New York, Oct. 28. Cotton prices today opened lower and remained on the defensive for the rest of the day.

Closing on the lows for the day the list was down 15 to 17 points net. The market opened off 2 to 6 points. New Orleans closed off 8 to 15 points.

A more favourable view of crop prospects, along with the disappointingly slow development of textile buying and overhanging hedge pressure kept prices rallying tendencies another.

With the absence of any killing frost, crop students thought "the plant is still making cotton," and that the Government's estimate, scheduled for Nov. 8, is apt to show an increase of the 12,185,000 bales indicated four weeks ago.

Producer entries under the loan programme for the week ended Oct. 22 totalled 91,050 bales, the largest for any week this season. The net stock of 1954 crop cotton held by the commodity Credit Corp. was 405,613 bales, plus 2,093,925 bales from the 1953 crop.

Futures today closed 23 to 40 points lower with sales of 104 contracts.

Commission house liquidation, plus hedge-selling found buyers reserved in both the terminal and spot markets.

Reported small sales included some one sheels for October and December delivery at 27 cents a pound.

Spot No. 1 Ras were quoted at 26½ cents. Future closings:

Dec.	27.10
Jan.	27.10
Feb.	27.10
Mar.	27.10
Apr.	27.10
May	27.10
June	27.10
July	27.10
Aug.	27.10
Sept.	27.10
Oct.	27.10
Nov.	27.10
Dec.	27.10

The market was dull with No. 1 Ras spot quoted at 26½ cents.

Settlement house term:

Dec.	27.10
Jan.	27.10
Feb.	27.10
Mar.	27.10
Apr.	27.10
May	27.10
June	27.10
July	27.10
Aug.	27.10
Sept.	27.10
Oct.	27.10
Nov.	27.10
Dec.	27.10

U.K. Exports To Russia

London, Oct. 28. Mr Peter Thorneycroft, President of the British Board of Trade, said here today that within the last six months, British manufacturers had been permitted to export machine tools worth a total of 11 million sterling to the Soviet Union.

Answering a question in the House of Commons, Mr Thorneycroft pointed out, however, that in the same period, the Government had refused to grant licences for the export to Russia of £3,000,000 worth of machine tools and for the export of a complete rolling mill and its planting mill, together valued at more than £10 million. Other applications to export machine tools worth a total of £3,000,000 had been withdrawn, he added.—Reuter.

NEW YORK STOCK MARKET

New York, Oct. 28. Stocks gave ground at the close today under the influence of a disappointing dividend for Bethlehem Steel and the same hesitancy in the face of elections.

The Bethlehem Steel directors' late announcement of lower rates and earnings accelerated a decline in stocks already under way in the final hour after early firmness.

Bethlehem Steel fell a point to 79. U.S. Steel, whose directors' action on Tuesday was the same as Bethlehem's today, dipped ½ to 45½.

Standard Oil (NJ) dropped 1½ points to 98½ when a 1.25 dividend was declared and failed to meet the market expectations.

Other groups went along with the lower trend. Chrysler fell ¾, General Motors ½ point in the automotives.

New York ship-building rose 1½ on news it has been awarded a Navy contract for four destroyer escorts. Favourable earnings helped lift National Cash Register almost a point.

Airline shares continued in demand on their good earnings and favourable outlook. American Air added ¾ to 16½ in the day's most active turnover.

Of a total 1,100 issues traded, 357 were higher, 559 lower. Volume increased slightly to 2,190,000 shares from 2,030,000 yesterday.

The New York Stock Exchange bond volume was \$3,380,000.

The American Stock Exchange volume was 570,000 shares.

DOW-JONES AVERAGES

New York closing averages on Wall Street today were as follows:

30 Industrials	324.80
20 Rails	118.62
15 Utilities	129.25
65 Stocks	130.38
40 Bonds	100.22
Comm. future price index	71.47

—United Press.

Chicago Grain Prices

Chicago, Oct. 28. Prices per bushel, cents:

Wheat, No. 2, red	2100
Spot	222½
Dec.	222½
Mar.	222½
July	219½

Corn, No. 2, yellow

Spot	105½
Dec.	105½
Mar.	105½
July	101½

Rye

Dec.	138½
Mar.	139½
July	129½

Soybeans, No. 2, yellow

Dec.	278½
Mar.	280½
July	281½
Nov.	280½
Dec.	280½
Mar.	280½
July	280½
Nov.	280½

Barley

Spot	120-130
New York flour	110-120

—United Press.

HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE

Ice House Street Surprised By Dairy Farm News

By A Special Correspondent

The announcement of Dairy Farm's new issue came like a bolt from the blue yesterday. Brokers got an inkling of the news in the morning and the shares quoted at \$24.80 at Wednesday's close, started off at \$25.20 and rose to \$25.40 before lunch. In the afternoon call, interest livened and the shares moved up steadily to \$26½ before edging back to \$26.30, possibly on profit-taking.

Under the terms of the new issue the company are to offer shareholders one new share at par (which is \$7.50) for every four held.

I understand that the purpose of this issue is to expand the ice-making section of the company and possibly at some later stage to increase cold storage capacity. Apparently also Government is turning over the importation of frozen meat to private enterprise and this is another reason behind the company's decision to issue new shares.

Presumably this means that Government's present stocks of meat will be sold to private enterprise. It is impossible to say as yet how much of this supply the Dairy Farm will be able to take over but extra capital will be needed to finance any such purchases.

Also, in the past, the Dairy Farm, which stores a large proportion of the Government reserves in its cold storage rooms, has been buying its meat supplies as required. As an importer, however, the company may have to engage in long term bulk buying which in turn may involve an alteration of its present ordering system. Without new financial problems in the initial stages.

To what extent all this is going to benefit the company's earnings, it is quite impossible to say. The main concern in Ice House Street yesterday afternoon was the future dividend policy of the company.

A number of brokers said they felt the company would, with the increased share issue, be unable to continue paying the \$2.70 dividend (less tax). This needs examination.

Let's look at profits, first of all. In the last three years they have been \$3,000,000, \$3,180,000, \$3,016,188.

At present the company has 1,408,070 shares issued and distribution takes up \$3,465,022. As a result of the new issue there will be an extra 300,000 shares which will take up an extra \$600,330 at the present dividend rate. The total to be paid out in distribution by the time the new shares qualify for the full dividend will therefore be \$4,330,301 which Ice House Street men point out is a large slice out of the \$5 million profit.

Brokers therefore feel that if earnings continue on the present basis, the company may be forced to reduce the dividend.

So much for Dairy Farm's. Elsewhere on the market there has been steady support for utilities this week and there are some appreciable gains to be noted.

In the case of Tramways they are up 80 cents on the week—unusual in view of the existing dispute. Brokers believe that investors were attracted by last week's low rates when the share was selling at about \$18. Following the Tramway Board's letter to the Commissioner of Labour yesterday, indicating that the company is willing to submit the dispute with the union to an impartial tribunal appointed by Government, this may restore a little confidence in the share.

Telephone, up about \$1.10 on the week and Lights up 40 cents, were two other good performers in utilities.

Utilities was not the only group to gain ground this week. There was an all-round improvement in the market.

CEMENTS SLIP

Cement, after touching a new peak of \$24½ earlier in the week, suffered from all-in price taking yesterday and edged back to \$23½. In the Street group apart from Farm, Watson and Lee Crawfords were other

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TODAY'S SHARE PRICES

(From Our Correspondent)

Business done on the Hongkong Stock Exchange this morning amounted to \$833,499.60. Noon quotations and the morning's transactions:

SHARES	BUYERS	SELLERS	SALES
BANKS			
HK Bank	1825	1645	20
East Asia	201		
INSURANCES			
Union			5
Lowndes	0.10	0.30	
Underwriters	0.10	0.40	
DOCKS, ETC.			
R. Wharves	21.00	21.40	710
Dock	21.00	21.40	500
Provident	14.10	14.20	
LAND, ETC.			
HK Hotel	11.20	11.40	800
HK Land	0.01	0.01	5000
IBM	0.01	0.01	500
Ready X	0.10	0.10	200
UTILITIES			
Star Ferry	10.70	10.80	100
Yim Fong	10.70	10.80	100
C. Light	0.10	0.10	100
C. Light	0.10	0.10	100
Electric	0.10	0.10	100
Telephone	20.10	20.50	1000
INDUSTRIALS			
Cement	30½	30	500
STORES, ETC.			
Dairy	20.10	20.20	500
Watson	17.70	17.90	500
L. Crawford	23.70	24.00	500
COTTONS			
Textiles	7.00	7.20	2000
Wool	2.00	2.10	500
MISCELLANEOUS			
Yamasa	0.25	0.30	1000
Allied	4.75	4.50	

New York Sugar Market

New York, Oct. 28. No. 4 world sugar futures closed today 1 point lower to 1 point higher with sales of ten contracts.

Domestic No. 6 sugar futures closed 1 and 3 points higher with sales of 54 contracts.

Scattered buying mostly for trade account, and light hedging imparted a note of steadiness to an otherwise featureless situation.

Future closings:

Contract No. 4 (World)	3.22
January	3.15
March	3.10
May	3.10
July	3.20
September	3.25

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Page 10 FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1954.

U.S. PLEDGE TO HELP GERMANY

Macao Grand Prix Course

Loose Bolt Found On Comet

London, Oct. 28. A court of inquiry was told today that on the day before a Comet airliner crashed in the Mediterranean last April 22, quarter inch bolts on its port wing were found to be loose.

The panel to which they were attached had been taken off during a routine check at London airport just over a week before. The panel had not been properly refitted, Mr. Ede Newton, chief investigation officer of the Ministry of Civil Aviation Accident Branch, told the inquiry.

The loose bolts were found by an engineer at Rome airport where the panel was correctly refitted before the plane took off to disaster.

British Overseas Airways had taken disciplinary action against the maintenance and inspection personnel responsible for the loose bolts.

The inquiry on its sixth day is investigating the loss of two Comets in the Mediterranean this year, which led to the fleet being grounded.—Reuter.

Eisenhower, Adenauer Issue Communiqué On Talks

Washington, Oct. 28. President Dwight Eisenhower and the West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer today hailed the recent agreements between West Germany and France as a particularly encouraging step toward lasting peace.

The two government chiefs also expressed agreement that the reunification of Germany must be achieved by peaceful means.

There were two of the points made in a joint communiqué issued after talks between Eisenhower and Adenauer, who is on an official state visit.

Other highlights of the communiqué were:

1. The President assured Dr. Adenauer that the United States would support efforts to obtain liberation of the greatest possible number of German military and civilian prisoners still held in the Soviet Union.

2. The President and the Chancellor exchanged views on the latest Soviet note concerning European security and the German and Austrian questions.

SEVERE SITUATION

"During this morning's conference, the President and the Chancellor discussed the serious situation in the Korean Peninsula and the fact that we are convinced that with the coming into effect of the agreements signed this past weekend, the road towards a strong and united Europe will have been paved."

"We view the understanding reached between the governments of France and the Federal Republic of Germany as an especially encouraging step toward lasting peace in continental Europe. This understanding was greatly furthered by the commitment on the part of the United Kingdom to maintain forces on the continent. The basis for a European community has thus been established."

"I continued interests in any support of this community in the United States was reiterated. Together with the strength of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, now to include the Federal Republic of (West) Germany, these new agreements will, we are convinced, serve to reinforce the defence of the Free World."

"We particularly addressed ourselves to the question of German reunification. The demand for a reunited Germany in freedom is viewed by the United States as the legitimate demand of the German people. We are agreed that this aim shall be achieved only by peaceful means. We are convinced of the necessity of continued efforts towards this goal and we are agreed that such efforts will be made by the United States and the Federal Republic of Germany."

Last Night's Concert

The Sino-British Music Group gave its first chamber music concert of the season last night at the Grantham Training College.

A critique will appear in tomorrow's China Mail.

Hongkong 'Nylon' Shirts Were Rayon: U.K. Firm Fined

London, Oct. 28. A London firm, which sold rayon shirts bought from Hongkong as nylon, was fined £25 here today and ordered to pay £100 costs for applying a false trade description to the articles.

The firm, the Polihon Trading Company of Wandour Street, pleaded guilty to all four summonses.

Mr. Michael Eastman, prosecuting, said "misleading trade descriptions are very prevalent at the moment in the case of goods from the Far East and other countries."

NO NYLON WHATSOEVER

Mr. Eastman said the yarns of the shirts were discovered to be a type of rayon. "There was absolutely no nylon whatever in them."

A representative of the wholesaler responsible for the distribution — Messrs. Bell and Nicholson of Cardiff — said it was the first time they had bought nylon shirts and they relied on the label. They were big importers of many articles and in 1953 they received an offer from a firm in Hongkong of men's nylon shirts.

A certificate of origin was forwarded from Hongkong saying that the shirts had been made of rayon. The firm thought they were getting a very good bargain.

For the defence, it was stated that the retailers had acted throughout in good faith. They had a document describing the shirts as rayon and had been deceived by that.—Reuter.

Appointments And Promotions

H.E. the Officer Administering the Government has appointed Mr. Henry Harris and Mrs. Kwong Lay Lai-yin, to be Inspectors of Schools, it was announced in the Government Gazette today.

Other appointments were, Mr. Alan Hugh Salisbury, Miss Rita Digby and Mr. Henry Harris to be Education Officers, (the first two on probation), and Mr. James Roberts Whitaker, as Engineer, Public Works Department.

Mr. Stanley H. J. Marvin has been appointed an Electrical Inspector, Class I, Dr. H. S. Rassim, Acting Senior Radiologist.

Flight Officer J. W. Ferris of the HKAAF has been promoted to Flying Officer with effect from September 9.

His Excellency has approved the confirmation of the following to permanent and pensionable establishment:

Mr. J. A. Hallam, Air Traffic Control Officer, Grade II, Miss M. G. Richards, Education Officer, and Mr. P. F. Kearney, Building Surveyor.

The Hon. Lawrence Kadoorie has been re-appointed an Unofficial Member of the Executive Council from October 28 during the absence from the Colony of the Hon. Michael W. Turner, Captain, H.I.G. Rylands, D.S.C., RN, is to be a Member of the Port Committee and a Member of the Port Executive Committee with effect from November 1.

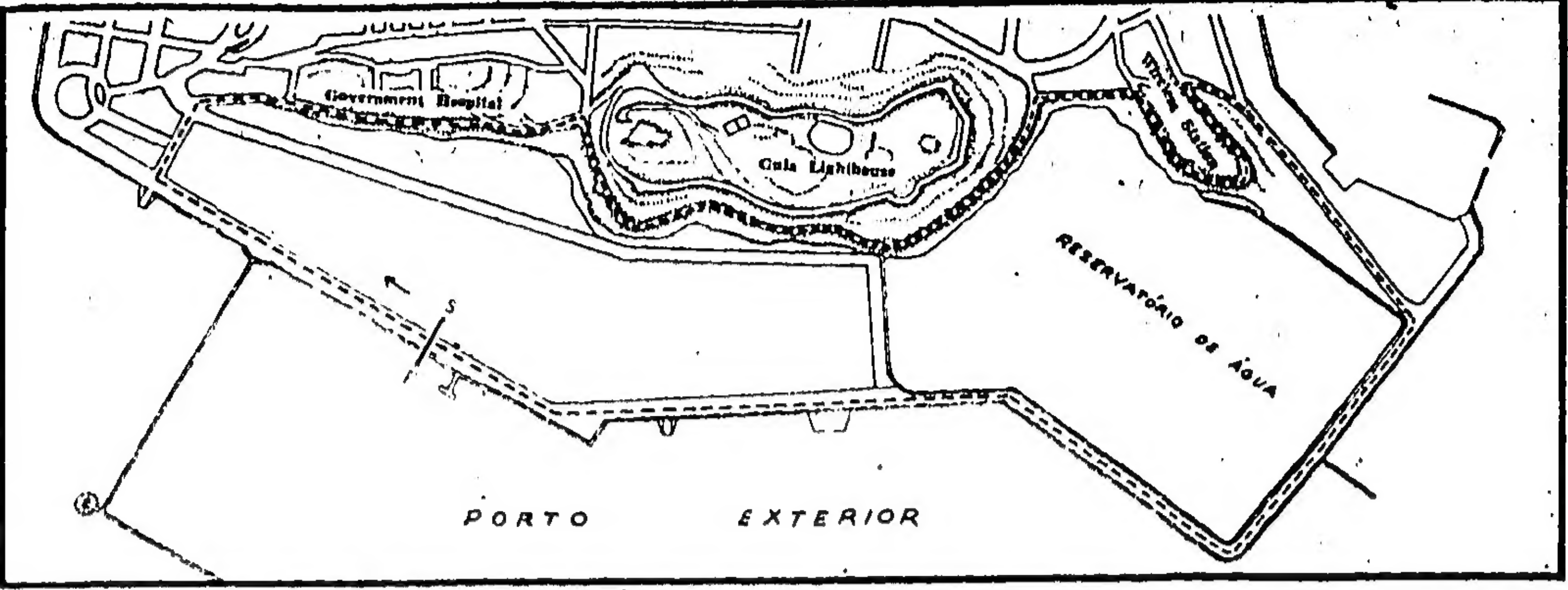
Death Of Bundestag President

Oldenburg, Oct. 28. Dr. Hermann Ehlers, 50-year-old President of the West German Bundestag (Lower House) died early today.

Dr. Ehlers was admitted to hospital on Wednesday with a throat infection.

Surgery had operated on him last night to ease his breathing. They said in a bulletin later his condition was "very serious."

Dr. Ehlers, who died in his hometown, was Vice-Chairman of the ruling Christian Democratic Party of Dr. Adenauer (West German Chancellor).—Reuter.



The dotted lines show the course the cars will take at the Macao Grand Prix on Sunday. George Liu, our special representative covering the event says:

History will be made on Sunday, when Rear Admiral J. M. Esparteiro, Governor of Macao, starts 19 cars on the first lap of the Macao Grand Prix—the first motor race ever to be held on the China Coast. Tomorrow afternoon in Macao, 24 drivers will participate in the Speed Regularity Trials, an event patterned after the Elimination Trials in the Monte Carlo and Lisbon Races. Here the cars will be started off in groups of six, after a preliminary circuit of the track the drivers will roar around four more times as fast as they can.

The winner of the S.R.T. will be the driver who not only maintains the fastest speed, but also the one who can keep up a constant speed in every lap.

Promptly at noon on Sunday, the 19 cars—17 of which are Hongkong entries, will scramble away in exciting Le Mans type start from the white line of the four-mile Gola Circuit to begin a gruelling four-hour race.

Those in Hongkong who would like to see the Grand Prix, are reminded that there is a special sailing schedule on Sunday. The ss Fatshan will sail for the Portuguese Colony at 8 a.m. and the ss Takshing will make the return trip at 6 p.m.—thus giving the public ample time to see the race and return home for the night.

On Sunday evening there will be an official ball and dinner, when the trophies will be presented.

Those in Hongkong who would like to see the Grand Prix, are reminded that there is a special sailing schedule on Sunday. The ss Fatshan will sail for the Portuguese Colony at 8 a.m. and the ss Takshing will make the return trip at 6 p.m.—thus giving the public ample time to see the race and return home for the night.

Lattimore Case British PCs DID Help U.S.

London, Oct. 28. The Home Secretary, Gwilym Lloyd George, told the House of Commons today that British police, acting on their own, had helped American officials seek evidence here in the Owen Lattimore case but that it would not happen again "in any comparable case" without "high-level" clearance.

Replying to a question by several Members of Parliament who wanted to know how much the British police had helped the U.S. government prepare its perjury prosecution against the American professor, Mr. Lloyd George said help had been given.

London Metropolitan Police had considered it "the investigation of a criminal charge" of the type in which they are accustomed to aiding other nations voluntarily, he said.

"The action taken by the Metropolitan police in this case was so much regarded as a routine response to a request for help from the police of another country in the investigation of a criminal charge that the matter was not brought to the personal notice of the Commissioner of Police of the metropolis nor was the matter reported to the Home Office," said Mr. Lloyd George.—United Press.

Firm And Partner Declared Bankrupt: Debtor Absconds

A petition that Weaver Woo and Co., and Weaver Shojee Hsu, partner thereof, be adjudged bankrupt was granted by Mr Justice T. J. Gould, acting Chief Justice, in the Bankruptcy Court this morning. The Court was informed that the debtor had absconded from the Colony.

The petition was made by Mr. W.K. Thomson on behalf of the Official Receiver. Mr. Thomson said the matter before the Court had been long outstanding and in fact dated from 1947.

He submitted to the Court the report of the Official Receiver which mentioned, inter alia, that a receiving order had been made against Weaver Woo and Co., and Weaver Shojee Hsu on October 28, 1947, and at the first meeting of creditors held on September 28, 1948, a resolution was passed that a sum of \$17,000 offered as a compromise by the partners, (former partners of Hsu who had retired from the partnership on August 1, 1947) be accepted.

The resolution was that this sum be distributed proportionately among all creditors, irrespective of the dates on which these debts arose. Mr. Thomson pointed out that the resolution was not binding upon creditors who were not present. The report further said that the earlier receiving order did not affect the other partners and they were entitled to be dismissed from the petition.

Mr. Woo said that when he was served with a copy of the Official Receiver's report he did not recollect that a receiving order had been made against his clients. After the receiving order had been made against Weaver Woo and Co., and Weaver Shojee Hsu, Counsel had negotiated with Mr. M. A. da Silva, acting on behalf of the petitioning creditor, Chuen Chong Hong, and it was agreed that the sum of \$17,000 should be paid to him and that the five persons Mr. Woo represented be released from the proceedings.

RECEIVING ORDER

Unfortunately, said Mr. Woo, his clients did not have the money at the time and it was agreed that a receiving order should be made against them and that they could subsequently apply for its rescission.

His Lordship observed that the petitioning creditor was not represented in Court and said he did not think he could go on in his absence.

Mr. Woo said he had served both Mr. Silva and the Official Receiver with copies of his petition. Apparently the petitioning creditor had not seen fit to appear, but Counsel did not think his position would be prejudiced by his absence. In fact, he added, since payment of the \$17,000 to him, petitioning creditor was no longer interested in his clients.

Mr. Thomson informed the Court that the money was in the hands of the Official Receiver, to whom it had been passed by Mr. Silva.

Mr. Woo's application was granted and the Court directed that the \$17,000 be refunded to Mr. Silva as the petitioning creditor, and that the creditors entitled to the money be notified.

THE PLUG

WILKIE drew a deep breath, and half-turned towards the public gallery. "I tell you," he said, "you can have a real good time at the Club, and not too expensive. It's a real nice place."

"You mustn't advertise the club here," the magistrate said. "With a sign, Wilkie switched off the sales talk." "I done no totting that night," he said. "That's all."

But the charge was found proved. Wilkie was fined \$5, and he went away looking not too displeased, as a man might who has topped a commercial life. "I think I've done well."

Correction

In an article in the China Mail of October 28, it was stated that Mr. W.K. Thomson had been granted a receiving order against Weaver Woo and Co., and Weaver Shojee Hsu. This was incorrect. The receiving order was granted against Weaver Woo and Co., and Weaver Shojee Hsu, but not against Weaver Woo and Co., and Weaver Shojee Hsu, as stated.

Another New Shipment JUST UNPACKED 27TH INSTANT



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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Hongkong's Water Supply

Sir,—You are quite right in your Editorial, Comment Of The Day in last evening's newspaper. And the Director of Public Works in his recent useful broadcast over Radio Hongkong.

Both of you have mapped out the position; the Editorials and other expressions have included the long-term plans to alleviate the water supply position.

What you and the Government neglected to deal with was the short-term plans immediately needed to make sure of the position from now until nature again plays a favourable hand.

I refer to the arrangements that should now be under way for installing distilling plant and the marshalling of those quantities of water available at our fingertips — the sea!

Please refer to the "Adv. Ring" in current issues of TIME Magazine for distilling equipment available from U.S.A. makers at quick delivery, and remember, also, the good work carried out during the reign of Queen Victoria by former & ex-Fernandus & Co. Ltd. of this town, when he installed the water distillers in Aden (about 100 years ago).

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



If the bills are such a worry, after the get out of debt, we'll pay cash for everything, but borrow whatever money we need.